

Tory MPs enraged by proposal of net 1.7% pay rise

By Anthony Evvins, Political Correspondent

Conservative MPs last night gave the fiercest possible vent to their anger and frustration with the Government over the controversial and embarrassing issue of parliamentary pay.



Police clearing the road outside Walton prison, Liverpool, yesterday of demonstrators protesting the innocence of Denis Kelly, aged 33, convicted of the gangland murder of a Textetth newsagent.

Deadline set for Catholic meat ban

By Richard Ford and David Nicholson-Lord

British Catholics have until November to decide whether to accept a return to the traditional abstention from eating meat on Fridays as laid down in a new code of Canon Law promulgated by the Vatican.

The rule, which usually meant Catholics ate fish on Fridays, was abandoned in the late 1960s under the provisions of Vatican II.

Under the terms of the new code, which was published earlier this year and becomes effective in November, Catholics must abstain from meat or another food as a form of self-denial to remind them to do penance.

The signs in England and Wales are already that many ordinary Catholics may be unwilling to accept a form of abstinence increasingly seen as old-fashioned and somewhat inward-looking.

One senior Catholic source said last night that the proposal seemed certain to cause raised eyebrows among many laity.

Other forms of self-denial that are likely to meet with more approval are support for charity or moves providing practical help for the developing world.

Tomorrow

the track hard Williams on the ring grid: how to come a racing car ver the trail rney to the land of the godytes, out west to con, Arizona

Gibraltar initiative by Madrid

Fernando Morán, the ish Foreign Minister, said rday that Spain would submit a formula to the European mission aimed at solving the problem of Gibraltar.

Death penalty debate

ing to a typesetting error, the paragraph of the lead story yesterday's Times referred to s on the death penalty ste taken in "The new se of Lords", instead of e Commons.

S rates fear

interest rates could rise in short term, the Federal ervice Board said. In Britain, Confederation of British rstry said that British rates did not follow the American

Ferry expansion

ly the Viking Line is vesting £15m to make Ramse, Kent, a rival to Dover as a Channel ferry port. Page 3

Nuclear link-up

diase and US officials have n holding talks in Washing-on a possible cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear

Robbery charge

men will face Horseferry rd magistrates, London, charged with robbing of £1,429,000 in gems and possessing weapons. They Arthur Rachel, aged 42, and ept Jerry Scalise, aged 42, a Chicago.

enters study

uters, the news agency, has ed its auditors to study the sibility of offering shares in company on the Stock

Uruguay ban

uguay's military Govern-nt last night banned a ical rally scheduled for gust 6 and kept on ice its otations with political par-on a return to civilian rule

ecess dates

s Commons is to adjourn for summer recess on July 29 i the Lords will adjourn on y 27.

adler's 64

course record round of 64, n under par, left the rican Craig Stadler, three kes ahead in the Open golf ampionship at Royal Birkdale, ain's Nick Faldo and Sam mance each had a 68 Page 23

andall's 75

rek Randall scored 75 not s England were dismissed 209 in the first Test. Hadlee & six wickets for 53 runs, but s Zealand were 17-3 at the se Page 22

ider page 13 here: On NHS cuts, from Mr J. Huckleby; rates, from dy Forster, and Mr J. R. vill; Financial Times dispute n Mr W. T. Booroff silling articles: After hanging; zill debt stures, pages 10-12 offery Smith interviews Mr lter Mondale; a portrait of John King, chairman of fish Airways; the new Footy ty to lead Labour. Spectrum: nes Guide to the British and Prix. Friday Pa: rital problems of Muslim men; Breaking down the (the wall, Medical Briefing; itary, page 14 Philip Zec, Mr Alan Hooper

Table with 3 columns: Page, Section, Page. Includes items like 'New News 2-4', 'History 25', 'Parliament 4', etc.

Save water appeal to homes

Householders were urged yesterday to stop using hoses and sprinklers during the heatwave to conserve water.

The National Water Council (NWC) made the appeal in spite of a scheme for raising above normal as a result of heavy rainfalls in April and May.

An increased demand for water, in some cases 30 per cent higher than normal, was the main problem and consumers living on high ground or at the end of some mains were suffering a reduction in pressure.

Hosepipes and sprinklers have been banned in Gwynedd, Wales, certain parts of the Thames area and in central

Remarriage in church approved

From Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent, York

A reluctant and divided General Synod was finally persuaded last night to approve a scheme for remarrying divorced people in the Church of England.

Heavy criticism was directed at almost every detail of the scheme but the mood of the debate gradually hardened into determination to try it as the best option available, with the possibility of revising it in the light of experience.

The scheme, which may be ready for operation next year, provides for a panel of expert advisers to recommend which individual cases should be allowed a second marriage in church.

The advisers will have a written report on each case from the clergymen concerned, based on inquiries, which he will be required to make.

If the diocesan bishop accepts the panel's recommendation he will formally relieve the previously married person from the obligations of the previous marriage vows.

The scheme had a rough passage through 14 attempts to amend the resolution which proposed it.

First, moved by the Rev Richard Holloway of Newcastle diocese, asked for second thoughts because "this procedure will not sufficiently acceptable throughout the church."

That was defeated by 233 votes to 211, indicating the synod's uncertainty. The Bishop of Durham, Dr John Habgood, said the number of amendments alone was enough to show that the synod was in great difficulty.

The main alternative before the synod was to leave the remarriage of divorcees entirely to the discretion of the clergyman concerned.

Canon Douglas Rhymes of Southwark diocese in London said that would make life almost impossible for a clergyman when he felt he had to turn a case down.

The final endorsement of the scheme was given by the House of Bishops by 33 votes to 10, by the House of Clergy by 131 to 64, and in the House of Laity by 120 to 69.

Government orders study into selling off airports

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

The Government has told the British Airports Authority to carry out urgent studies into turning its major airports - Heathrow, Gatwick, Glasgow and Edinburgh - into private companies, Mr Norman Payne, the chairman, disclosed yesterday.

The instruction came from Mr Tom King, the Transport Secretary, soon after the election, and runs counter to the authority's previous proposals to "sell off" private airports while keeping the airports in one unit.

The study is expected to take four to six weeks and as yet he had no idea of its outcome, Mr Payne said. But he expected it would lead to a stock market flotation. The idea of performance bonds investigated by authority before the election was now over and done with.

Speaking at a London press conference, Mr Payne reported profits of £35m for the last financial year, £4.7m down on the previous year.

He blamed the continued recession in air transport, producing only one per cent traffic growth last year, and landing charges pegged at 1981 levels. But as the world economy perked up, traffic this year should rise 2.5 per cent he predicted, and the authority's profit to more than £37m.

Prestwick, Scotland, remains the authority's main problem airport, with a £3.4m loss. A major publicity campaign is under way in Canada and the United States to persuade American tourists to visit Scotland, but it is too early to assess results, Mr Payne said.

Investment of nearly £100m, largely in the fourth trimester at Heathrow, was at a record level and amounted to nearly a third of the total turnover.

Commercial operations such as duty free sales, accounted at £131m for nearly half the authority's revenue and made a £49m profit compared with a £9m loss on handling fees and other traffic activities.

With steadily rising profits since its formation 17 years ago, British Airports is one of the ripest plums on the privatization tree, and could raise most, if not all, the extra £500m the Chancellor wants from this source before the end of the year.

Key figures for the separate airports last year are: Heathrow profit: £43.6m. Passengers: 26.6m. Aircraft movements: 275,000. Gatwick: Profit: £775,000. Passengers: 11.5m. Aircraft movements: 151,000. Stansted: Loss: £4.6m. Passengers: 300,000. Aircraft movements: 35,000. Glasgow: Profit: £740,000. Passengers: 2.4m. Aircraft movements: 85,500. Edinburgh: Loss: £1.3m. Passengers: 1.2m. Aircraft movements: 67,500. Prestwick: Loss: £3.4m. Passengers: 400,000. Aircraft movements: 28,600. Aberdeen: Profit: £590,000. Passengers: 1.7m. Aircraft movements: 110,600.

Gatwick is once a white elephant, is rapidly turning into a highly successful airport, and there is little doubt that Stansted could be so too if developed as London's third airport along the lines proposed by the authority.

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Car manufacturers wage discount war

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The prospect of the biggest August car market of all time with sales topping 320,000 vehicles has provoked a fierce discount war between manufacturers which could cost them up to £50m in dealer bonuses and prizes.

Ford, the British market leader accounting for one in three of all cars sold here, is offering dealers discounts of hundreds of pounds a car, £150 bonuses for their most successful salesmen, and 18-day holidays in Australia for dealer principals and their wives.

Trade sources believe that Ford is preparing to spend between £20m and £25m before the end of August.

This has led to accusations that because of its dominant position in the market, Ford will create chaos with "such disorderly marketing tactics" in August, a month which is usually so popular with private buyers that discounting is not necessary.



Howe debut with the top Reagan men

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Sir Geoffrey Howe, on his first visit to Washington since becoming Foreign Secretary, yesterday held a series of meetings with top US officials which read like an entry from the Who's Who of the Reagan Administration.

In addition to a half-hour meeting with President Reagan in the White House, Sir Geoffrey discussed arms control issues and the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain with Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary; foreign policy issues including the Middle East, Central America and East-West relations in a lengthy session with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State; and economic issues with Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary.

Although Sir Geoffrey saw eye-to-eye with his American hosts on most issues, there were differences of view about what Britain fears is a drift towards protectionism by the United States. These fears were underscored last week by the Reagan Administration's decision to impose tariffs and quotas on speciality steel imports, a move which has been condemned by the EEC.

After the lifting of the abstention rule it was thought Catholics would be mature enough to make their own sacrifice but this has not occurred. Even before Vatican II, the rule was being ignored by the Church felt a positive regulation must be introduced that would have to be obeyed by all practising Catholics.

TUC act on FT dispute

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The TUC last night moved to impose its will on the National Graphical Association in the dispute at the Financial Times and urged the union to accept the independent mediator's report which largely supports a management pay offer.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, wrote to Mr Joe Wades, NGA general secretary, urging him and his union to accept the mediator's report and go back into negotiations to get a speedy return to work.

The letter is the first step in the informal TUC disciplinary process and it is understood that Mr Murray would be prepared to call the NGA to appear before a meeting in 10 days time of the TUC "inner cabinet" if his appeal is refused.

Such an appearance is the equivalent in the union movement of being called before High Court bench and it would be unprecedented for the NGA to ignore such an invitation or indeed any recommendation from the finance and general purposes committee.

An early indication of whether the union, which has had 270 members on strike for nearly seven weeks at the Financial Times, will cooperate is likely to come this afternoon when the strikers have been called to a meeting of their chapel (office branch).

Mr Bryn Griffiths, NGA president, will read Mr Murray's letter to the meeting but any final decision on whether to cooperate with the TUC general secretary's request is likely to rest with a meeting of the NGA national council next Thursday.

If that meeting decides on a policy of defiance there is already a meeting of the TUC finance and general purposes committee.

Harrods Sale advertisement with text 'Add extra style to your life' and 'Great Reductions on ONEIDA Silver-plated Cutlery'.

Harrods advertisement featuring a silver-plated cutlery set and text: 'Silver-plated Community Plate cutlery in various patterns. Guaranteed for thirty years. In lined, wooden canteens. Illustrated: 60-piece set for eight. "Hampton Court" pattern. Harrods Original Price £539. Sale Price £372. Interest-free Credit £37.20 deposit and 9 monthly payments of £37.20 each. Total Credit Sale Price £372. Not shown: 44-piece set for six. Harrods Original Price £409. Sale Price £272. 88-piece set for twelve. Harrods Original Price £803. Sale Price £535. Hearth & Home Dept. Cooks Way, Second Floor. Carriage free within our van delivery area. All reductions are from Harrods previous prices. 10-MONTH INTEREST-FREE CREDIT SALE. AGREEMENTS are available on many single items over £100. Ask for written details. Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NL. 01-730 1234. Continued on back page, col 1'.

Sally ferry line invests £15m to turn Ramsgate into port to rival Dover

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

A Scandinavian shipping line is investing £15m to make Ramsgate, Kent, a rival to Dover as a cross-Channel ferry port.

Sally the Viking Line, which from today will be operating two cut-price ferries between Ramsgate and Dunkirk, hopes to be carrying two million passengers and 300,000 cars a year, more than a tenth of the market, by the mid-1980s.

By 1986 Sally plans to operate 50 sailings a day to France, Belgium, Holland and West Germany, using ferries twice the size of any on the Channel now.

"Ramsgate will be to Dover what Calais is to London," said Mr Michael Kingshot, Sally's British managing director, said, aged 36, he is already a millionaire from importing Japanese cars in the 1970s.

With the help of a simplified fare structure, with a standard rate for cars and children carried free, Sally has already won a five per cent share of the market in two years, but the existing operators affect not to be worried.

British rail's Sealink, busy rationalizing to meet the Government's privatization plans, said yesterday: "Obviously we are aware of the position Sally are carving out for themselves, but they have gone for lower rates in order to buy their way into the market."

"We do not see their share rising above eight to nine per cent. Some sailings by Sealink are already cheaper, and with our big new ferries we are confident of meeting all competition. In fact we are bullish about our future on the Channel."

Townsend Thoresen, the market leader, whose chairman, Mr Keith Wickenden, died in an air crash last week, said: "Naturally, we take any competition seriously. But Sally have a pretty small share of the market. We thrive on competition."

Sally remains confident of becoming a substantial force on the Channel now that the price war between the big operators is over. A £2m loss in 1981 and £1.5m last year will be eliminated this year, and converted to a £3m profit by 1985, Mr Graeme Marshall, British financial controller, said yesterday.

At that point two £35m ferries with space for 2,500 passengers and 500 cars, a swimming pool, sauna, and luxury restaurants and cabins will come into operation, he predicted.

Mr Kingshot said that traffic growth across the channel would be substantially greater than the experts had so far predicted.

According to a recent *Which?* report, Sally offers good value for large cars and big family groups, especially at peak times, but for a standard car and two adults Townsend, Sealink and P&O offer substantially lower rates at between £40 and £45, compared with Sally's £58 for people prepared to travel in the early morning.

Family is jailed for contempt

The parents and brother of a murdered woman were jailed for 28 days each yesterday for ignoring a court order to attend the trial of her killer.

Mr Justice Russell sentenced them at Manchester Crown Court where he jailed the murderer for life last week.

The judge told them: "All three of you were the subject of absolute witness orders. It was made plain to each of you you were required to give evidence in a murder trial, a trial which affected a member of your family."

"It might well have been that your absence could have created a miscarriage of justice and I cannot overlook what I regard as a gross contempt of this court."

Patrick McDonagh, aged 53, his wife, Kathleen, aged 50, and their son, Martin, aged 30, were living in a hotel in Liverpool when seen by the police on June 30. They were told they must attend court on July 6 as prosecution witnesses but they did not turn up. Mr Justice Russell ordered their arrests on warrants for contempt.

Mr Andrew Vos, for the parents and brother, said they accepted they were warned to attend court. They were terrified of the consequences as they had never been in prison before.

Last Friday, Mr Justice Russell jailed Osborne Stewart, aged 39, for life, for what he called a "brutal, and savage murder".

Stewart was found guilty of killing Mrs Mary Bridget Heaney, aged 29, who was beaten to death in an argument at her home in Crowsfield Walk, Moss Side, Manchester, last Boxing Day.

She was punched, kicked, and possibly stamped on by Stewart, her boy friend, after he had a quarrel with her parents and brother.

Mr David Routley, aged 24, a student who claims that, strapped and handcuffed to a stretcher, he was unlawfully taken and detained for 18 days yesterday won the right to sue the doctors who ordered his committal.

Two Court of Appeal judges, in a reserved judgment, granted Mr Routley, formerly of Pentonville Park, Lancing, leave to bring an action against Dr Brian Vawdrey, consultant psychiatrist at Graylingwell psychiatric hospital, near Chichester, west Sussex, and Dr John Lewis, a general practitioner, claiming damages alleging negligence and false imprisonment.

But Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Slade refused Mr Routley, now living with friends in Lancing, leave to sue Mr Alan Fisher, a mental welfare officer, and his employers, West Sussex County Council.

Mr Routley alleges the doctors signed a 12-month committal order without giving him an examination.

The court allowed his appeal against the refusal of a High Court judge to grant him leave under the Mental Health Act to institute proceedings.

Lord Justice Dunn said that before the order was signed Mr Routley's father had told the doctors that his son was behaving strangely and aggressively and had made threats to kill him and his younger brother.

Part-time prisons backed by MPs

By Stewart Tiedler, Crime Reporter

An experimental system of part-time prison for short-term offenders so that they would go out to work each day but spend their nights in jail was proposed yesterday by a group of MPs specializing in penal questions.

The experiment has been put to the Home Office by the parliamentary all-party penal affairs group after a study of schemes in Belgium and Holland earlier this year. The MPs suggest a system whereby offenders would attend detention centres for a set number of days over six months.

The part-time system could be tried in one or two prisons. It would be applied to short-term prisoners who were employed when convicted. In Belgium the scheme is used for prisoners serving sentences up to six months.

The group, in a report published yesterday, said it was attracted to the idea because it enabled prisoners to continue supporting their families. They could also make a contribution towards the cost of their imprisonment.

The "day detention" scheme would not be reformative but provide "a straightforward, credible and easily understood penalty which would avoid the undesirable side-effects of custodial sentences".

In the case of offenders such as football hooligans it would provide "a measure of prevention through containment".

But the day detention would include constructive work or educational courses.

The group has also examined the idea of weekend prisons and found there were attractions in its use because while it was a credible penalty there was no loss of jobs, reduced family disruption and less contamination from criminal attitudes which might arise from longer periods in prison.

In studying the concept of using partial sentencing the report noted that in Belgium and Holland economic difficulties arose over the use of cells for only part of the time. Since weekend or partial imprisonment might mean separate centres the system would be too expensive unless it was used for a large number of prisoners.

Part-time Prison (Parliamentary All-Party Penal Affairs Group, c/o 169 Clapham Road, London SW9 0P; 75p).

Mr Leonard Matcham, the owner and an atheist, said he would be happy if Sir Julian Hodge, the Welsh financier.

Mr Matcham, aged 72, who wants about £3m for a 125 year lease of the island, said yesterday he was selling it because he could no longer cope with the steep stone stairway leading up from the small harbour.

Mr Matcham, the former head of the Cope Allman combine, said: "Although I am an atheist I would feel happier in my grave if someone like Sir Julian purchased Breconbos."

"By holding on the lease there even from the grave I will be able to stop any ugly development of the island."

Sir Julian, aged 78, who is a friend of Mr Matcham, would finance the operation from a charitable fund named after his mother which is understood to be worth about £13m.

Foster plea for problem teenagers

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

A group of London social workers yesterday launched a new foster parent campaign which acknowledges that the teenagers they are trying to get out of care are often difficult to handle.

The campaign covers all 32 London boroughs and is aimed at finding suitable parents for more than half the 9,000 teenagers in their care. The campaign literature tackles popular views about teenagers, from the idea that they are all crazy to the notion that they sniff glue and are violent.

Such a teenager is being fostered by Mrs Jennine Bryans, aged 3, who has six children of her own and is preparing to adopt a boy, aged four. Mrs Bryans took Martin, now aged 17, for a two-week holiday on a short-term fostering placement last year he is still with her family.

Martin has lived in children's homes or institutions all his life. He has been in trouble with the police and is on probation and unemployed.

Asked how the family could handle a young man such as Martin she said: "We just love him. The strength of my family has pulled me through."

Mr Jeremy Burns, chairman of the campaign, called London's Fostering Information Service, said there were many young people like Martin who need understanding foster homes and many foster parents like Mrs Bryans able to take on the job. The problems were finding them, which was why social workers, who were employed as fostering officers by London boroughs, had decided to pool resources and ideas into the campaign.

Potential parents will be sent a glossy brochure listing details of 254 teenagers who are in care and need foster parents. The 254 include 26 handicapped children and 90 from ethnic minorities, categories that social workers now realize can be successfully fostered.

The campaign organizers acknowledge that fostering of teenagers is more hazardous than younger children, who can adjust more easily. The failure rate is still low and in Lambeth it is 11 per cent.

Seaman claims confession on fire was false

A seaman accused of starting a £1m fire on a Royal Fleet auxiliary vessel, in which a crewman died, claimed yesterday that he had confessed falsely four years later because his conscience haunted him.

Derek Devine, aged 25, told a jury at the Central Criminal Court that he had been drinking heavily while on night watch on the Hebe in Gibraltar dockyard in November, 1978. He said he discovered a fire in a linen locker, but panicked and failed to raise the alarm immediately.

"I didn't do my job properly and afterwards I felt ashamed and disgusted with myself. If I hadn't been drinking that night I would have reacted differently," he added.

Mr Devine, of Kenwyn Caravan Park, Truro, Cornwall, said that he felt guilty because a life had been lost. He told detectives last October that he was responsible for the fire "because I wanted to be punished".

The court was told that he was interviewed by the police while held in Exeter prison on a theft charge.

Mr Devine, who is said to have used a single match to set fire to a towel, pleaded not guilty to the manslaughter of Mr Leslie Mason, aged 52, from Grimsby, who suffocated. He also denied arson. The trial continues today.

'My daughter in death cell does not deserve to hang'

By Richard Evans

The father of a London woman sentenced to hang in South Africa for murdering her British-born husband spoke for the first time yesterday about the fate awaiting his daughter, and said: "If she dies, I will die."

Mrs Maureen Smith, born in east London 39 years ago and privately educated at a Sussex convent, was sentenced to death in Johannesburg last November after being convicted of killing Roger Smith, her third husband. Two black Africans she allegedly hired to carry out the murder were also sentenced to the gallows.

Today, 72 hours short of the eighth anniversary of her fatal third marriage in the 235th day Mrs Smith will have spent in "death row at a maximum security prison in Pretoria, awaiting her appeal against conviction and sentence scheduled for next month.

She emigrated with her husband to Durban soon after their marriage at Brentwood, Essex, in 1975. But the relationship soured and they were in the process of getting divorced when they moved to a rented home on the outskirts of Johannesburg, early in 1982. He died from 14 stab wounds in the back garden on July 20 last year.

Yesterday her father, Mr Harry Mullucks, an East Ham businessman, described how he was convinced his only daughter was not guilty. He said that she had been physically ill-treated by her husband in the three years before his death and that Smith had tried to blackmail him during the divorce proceedings by exposing his breach of currency regulations when he sent tens of thousands of pounds to his daughter from Britain.

He passed on to *The Times* three of the many letters Mrs Smith has written from her cell to her father which give details of her time in "death row" and express her hopes for the future.

Mr Mullucks, aged 71, said: "I do not believe she has been rightly convicted of murder. My granddaughter has convinced me emphatically that her mother never knew what was going to happen that night."

"Maureen had been driven to the madness by Roger's appalling behaviour. If another week had passed she would have undoubtedly killed herself."

During her trial it was alleged that Mr Mullucks had suggested sending "heavies" from England to kill Smith and that an aunt flew from Britain to assist.

A request by Mr Mullucks for immunity from possible prosecution to give evidence at his daughter's appeal hearing was rejected. Instead he has made detailed statements to his daughter's defence lawyers.

"I write to her every week and she writes back from her cell just as regularly. Her letters bring tears to my eyes. She is going grey and her health is deteriorating."

"She was not guilty and knows she is not guilty. When she came out of court after being sentenced, the warders said they wanted to put a black cover over her head. She said: 'I don't want a cover over my head. I am not guilty.'"

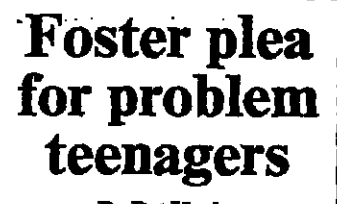
The year-long ordeal is taking its toll on Mr Mullucks. He is in poor health and last week had a minor stroke.

He said that the Commons decision not to restore capital punishment in Britain was what he expected of civilized people "and I just pray that the people who are responsible for giving consideration to my daughter's appeal will allow the same understanding."

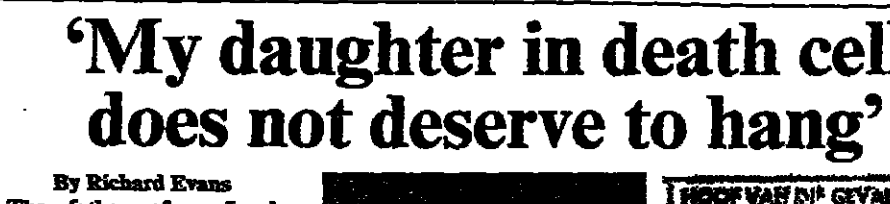
In her letters to her father Mrs Smith repeatedly refers to the hell conditions in the prison. In one of her letters she names another person who she believes is going to be prosecuted in connection with the case, and adds: "I am certainly not prepared to take 'death row' any longer than is necessary for his wrongdoings."

Mr Mullucks said that Smith's own father had described his son as a Jekyll and Hyde character, and he agreed with that. He said that Smith would do anything for money.

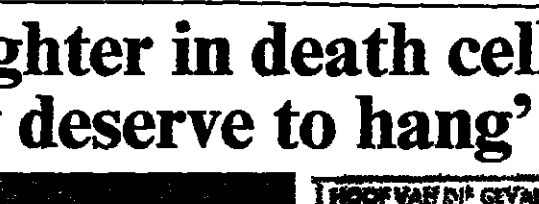
Over the years Mr Mullucks transferred tens of thousands of pounds to South Africa. He handed British money to a friend in London, as arranged by Smith, who later collected the equivalent in rands from the friend's father in South Africa. "I did it for my daughter's happiness, but all that money has gone."



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Light note: Tracy Garner discovering what Michael Turner was wearing under a kilt. The seven-year-olds, from Hilltop School, Wickford, Essex, were taking part in the National Festival of Music For Youth at the Festival Hall yesterday. (Photograph: David Cairns).



Miss Lyn Lloyd, the shop steward, said yesterday. "The current affairs programmes have become quite successful and we all expected to continue with them for some time. The board told us our contracts would not be renewed. They gave no reason."

The dispute is complicated by some members production team, including Miss Stephens, who signed the original contract with Channel 4, being board members.

Broadside, whose most notable programme recently have been *A Gentleman's Agreement* on video "nasties" and *Different from other Girls* on the effects of oestrogen on young girls in Puerto Rico, was formed as a cooperative by 12 women.

After it won a contract to make 16 programmes for Channel 4 last September, it gave itself a company structure and since then relations between the board and the production staff have deteriorated.

Miss Eleanor Stephens said yesterday: "I am appalled by the series of events

As Mrs Maureen Smith (left) sits alone in her cell in Pretoria's maximum security prison, she pours out her heart in letters to her father. Each is stamped (above) by the prison censor. She receives restricted visits from her mother and her teenage daughter Karen. One letter sums up her loneliness and desperation:

"Hello, it's me again. I was sitting here waiting for another day to pass, thinking of home, you, Mummy, Karen's future, oh just all sorts, and I felt I had to write to you. I miss you terribly you know and am so scared time will be against us. I know we shall have a good result, it is time I think about. How long before I am home with my loved ones? I am doing as you ask, being patient, steadfast and keeping faith."

"I think I have probably been through too much. It is only natural to have times of feeling lost, and like now I feel as if I am talking to you. I feel lonely, homesick and ridiculed with heartache. It is not that I feel sorry for myself. I simply want to be with you and Mummy in 174, sitting drinking proper coffee out of a cup and saucer like a normal person again. At each day passes, so it is one day nearer..."

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Mr Nicholas Ofosu, aged 31, chocked to death on his vomit in the charge room at the police station in May. Three officers who arrested him at his home in Proctor House, Avondale square, Bermondsey, after a disturbance denied using "excessive force" or doing anything that might cause him to vomit.

The inquest hearing continues today.

People are lying their way to "quickie" divorces with the help of the legal profession, it was claimed yesterday.

The practice of husbands or wives conveniently ending a marriage by bringing trumped-up allegations against their partner is on the increase, according to officials of an newly formed society.

In most cases the fabricated stories are not contested because the innocent parties are deterred when told by solicitors that their case could cost around £2,000 to contest.

The result is that an increasing number of innocent husbands and wives are finding that their lives and marriages are in ruins and their homes lost because they cannot raise the cash to contest the case.

Officials of the Society For Help In Divorce say that they have cases where people have been driven to attempt suicide. They want Britain's liberal divorce laws tightened and solicitors forced to take a more responsible role.

All-woman TV team in contract dispute

By Richard Dowdes

In a dispute over policy and money the board of Broadside, the all women television production company, have told the production team that their contracts will not be renewed.

The final programme in a series of 16 made for Channel 4 a not shown on Wednesday night because the dispute prevented its completion.

Miss Eleanor Stephens, the editor, said that the board had been interfering with production for three or four months and had finally withdrawn her right to sign cheques so that the salary cheques "bounced" this month. The company has received about £300,000 from Channel 4.

Members of the board would not comment but it is understood that they wish to use some of the £30,000 profit made by Broadside this year to make a drama series, while the staff want it to continue making current affairs programmes.

Negotiations on behalf of the eight staff who stand to lose their jobs are now being conducted by the film and technician's union, the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians.

Miss Lyn Lloyd, the shop steward, said yesterday. "The current affairs programmes have become quite successful and we all expected to continue with them for some time. The board told us our contracts would not be renewed. They gave no reason."

The dispute is complicated by some members production team, including Miss Stephens, who signed the original contract with Channel 4, being board members.

Broadside, whose most notable programme recently have been *A Gentleman's Agreement* on video "nasties" and *Different from other Girls* on the effects of oestrogen on young girls in Puerto Rico, was formed as a cooperative by 12 women.

After it won a contract to make 16 programmes for Channel 4 last September, it gave itself a company structure and since then relations between the board and the production staff have deteriorated.

Miss Eleanor Stephens said yesterday: "I am appalled by the series of events

Solicitors accused by witness

By Richard Evans

Mr Gary Young, aged 21, a witness at an inquest into the death of a man who died at Rotherhithe police station in south east London, admitted at Southwark Coroner's Court yesterday that his statement incriminating police officers was untrue.

Mr Young, of Canon Beck Road, Rotherhithe, claimed it was changed as it was written down by solicitors acting for the dead man's family.

Mr Paul Botang, Greater London Council's police committee chairman, is connected with the firm. The hearing was adjourned on Tuesday after Mr Young said he had not signed the statement because it was never read back to him and that some of it was "a bit exaggerated."

Mr Nicholas Ofosu, aged 31, chocked to death on his vomit in the charge room at the police station in May. Three officers who arrested him at his home in Proctor House, Avondale square, Bermondsey, after a disturbance denied using "excessive force" or doing anything that might cause him to vomit.

The inquest hearing continues today.

Couples 'lying their way through quickie divorces'

People are lying their way to "quickie" divorces with the help of the legal profession, it was claimed yesterday.

Council man in siege dies

By Jack Clonke, chairman of a Cornish council's planning committee who, together with other officials, was held hostage by a gunman 10 days ago, died yesterday. He was 55.

Mr Clonke is believed to have had a heart attack at his home at Cargreen, Cornwall.

Surgeons at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Buckinghamshire, have carried out a 16-hour operation on Mr Roy Tapping, the farmworker whose arm was severed by a baling machine and then sewn back.

Two of the damaged nerves in Mr Tapping's left arm were replaced with nerves grafted from his leg by surgeons

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Geoffrey Smith

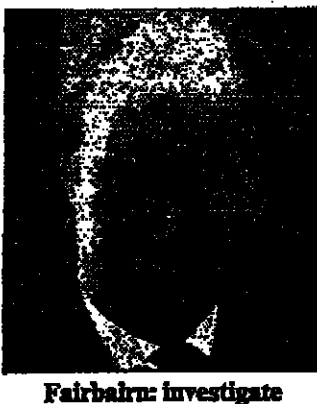
Action to stop future police chief memoirs

HOME OFFICE

The action of Mr Ronald Gregory, former Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, in publishing his memoirs on the hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper was deplorable, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said during questions in the Commons.

Might I propose a remedy for the future? Would he encourage police authorities to have much more strict contractual arrangements on the appointment of their senior police officers?

Mr Brittan: I am not sure what kind of inquiry he has in mind. Consideration of the matter by the Association of Chief Police Officers is going on and they are consulting with my department.



Fairbairn: Investigate this scandal

Mr Peter Sarge, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (West Bromwich East, Lab): There is something uniquely distasteful about Mr Gregory cashing in on his own incompetence.

Poverty line has never been defined by any government

PM'S QUESTIONS

No definition of the poverty line had ever existed, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said to Lord Labour in the Commons after the Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, had warned that if unemployment continued under her Government, there would be eight or nine million people on the poverty line.

and doctors, one sixth of all transport workers, 5,000 miners - (Conservative cheer) - one quarter of all journalists (Labour) - many working couples, half of all medical practitioners, heads of many secondary schools and half of all university academics.

supplied to the so-called front line states, \$1,000 worth has been supplied by the United Kingdom. As most of these states are bankrupt (he said), we can only assume that the bill has been met by the British taxpayer.

Brittan rules out referendum

DEATH PENALTY

Capital punishment was unlikely to be debated again for quite a while and a referendum on the subject would be unwise, Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, said during questions in the Commons.

Holidaymakers may get postal votes

VOTING REFORM

The issue of postal votes for holidaymakers would not be left to drift, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said in indicating he was personally concerned and believed that action was necessary.

No cure yet for AIDS sufferers

HOUSE OF LORDS

Fourteen confirmed cases of AIDS disease had been reported to the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre at Colindale and a further two cases were under investigation, Lord Glasier, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, told the House of Lords.

Tax relief for banks on bad debts

PM'S QUESTIONS

The Prime Minister was involved in an exchange with Mr Dennis Skelmer (Bolsover, Lab) over tax relief for banks on bad debts.

No prospect of negotiations with Argentina

The Prime Minister was cheered by Conservative MPs when she said she had no intention of negotiating with Argentina on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

Briton held in Malta

The British Government is pressing for a speedy trial for Mr Anthony Price, a British citizen who has been charged in Malta with conspiracy to subvert the Government of Malta.

Home Secretary's stand was critical

When there is such a build-up of authoritative opinion and a study developed by so many of those who support a change, that somehow the thing is not so. That has happened before, most notably over Europe.

EEC divided on fish

Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in a statement in the Commons about the EEC Council of Fisheries Ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday, said the EEC Commission had undertaken to have at least some of its inspectors in place by the end of September.

Law on lottery tickets to be changed

The Lotteries (Amendment) Bill, sponsored by Lord Irving of Durdard (Lab), was read a second time in the Lords.

Britain's world trade in armaments

Mr Ian Lloyd (Havant, C) said during Prime Minister's questions that successive governments had refused to give information on the British world trade in armaments.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Telecommunications Bill, second reading.

ENTERTAINMENTS
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FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
THEATRES
A CREDIT CARD RESTAURANT
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A CREDIT CARD RESTAURANT
THEATRE BOARDS

NO SEX PLEASE - WE'RE BRITISH
DANIELS PULLS IT OFF
DANIELS PULLS IT OFF
DANIELS PULLS IT OFF

THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
RAYMOND BURE
UNDERGROUND
TRAFFORD TANZI
THE SPAGNOLA & DAMONIOUS REVUE
LA VIE EN ROSE

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Superpower dialogues on arms, human rights and trade

China and US discuss nuclear deal

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Chinese and United States officials have been holding talks here on nuclear non-proliferation and Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, is planning a visit to Peking later this year.

China because, at present, there is no overall agreement between the two countries on cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

his first visit as Defence Secretary to China in late September or early October, but firm arrangements are still being worked out, Pentagon officials said.

nology could be used to build advanced weapons. The Reagan administration agreed in 1981 to consider sales of weapons to Peking on a case-by-case basis, but so far there have been no such sales.

Madrid negotiators seek rapid accord

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The chief United States and Soviet delegates met in private for more than an hour yesterday on the sidelines of the European security review conference.

The Spanish chairman of the meeting said afterwards that both men had told him they had taken a decision to reach rapid agreement on ending the conference, which has been going on in Madrid for nearly three years.

Mr Max Kampelman, the American delegate, arrived yesterday direct from seeing President Reagan in Washington. "We have always said we are looking for deeds and these would have a very decided impact", he said after meeting Mr Anatoly Kovalev, a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister.

WASHINGTON: The Soviet Union has assured the United States that it will allow



Mr Kampelman: Optimistic about outcome

some dissidents to emigrate by the end of the year, Reagan Administration officials said here (Bernard Gwertzman of The New York Times reports).

The officials said Moscow had privately indicated the names of some it said would be allowed to leave, but none of them was as prominent as Anatoly Shecharansky, Yuri Orlov or Andrei Sakharov.

Bush keeps nerve gas project alive

From Our Correspondent Washington

Vice-President George Bush cast a rare tie-breaking vote in the Senate to get approval for President Reagan's request to end a de facto freeze on production of chemical weapons by manufacturing binary nerve gas shells.

The Vice-President's vote on Wednesday defeated an amendment that would have prohibited their production. It was the first time since 1977 that a vice-president had broken a Senate tie, the only circumstance under which he is allowed to vote in the chamber.

The Democrat-majority House of Representatives rejected President Reagan's nerve gas weapon production request a month ago and the whole matter will now have to be fought out in "conference" between the Senate and House leadership.

The Senate votes came on a Bill that would authorize almost \$30 billion (£13 billion) in military spending for the fiscal year beginning on October 1.

Hopes for a softer line at Start

From Our Correspondent Washington

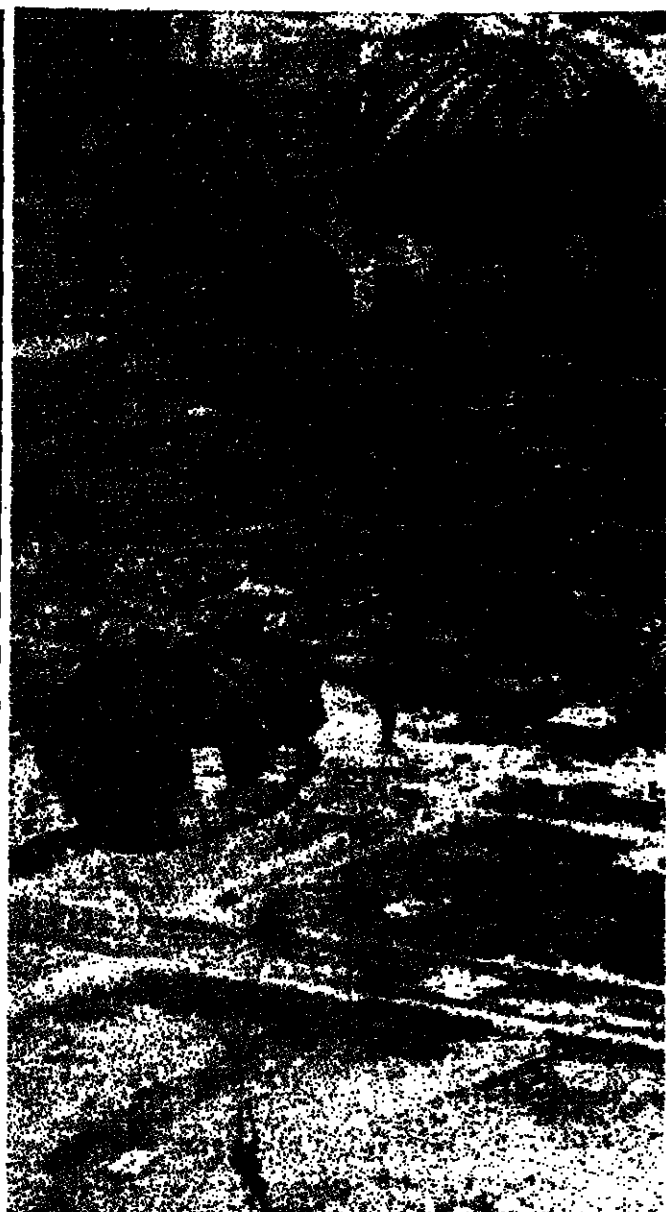
The United States hopes the recent elaboration of the Soviet proposals in the Geneva strategic arms reduction talks (Start) indicates Moscow's intention to show flexibility and move the complex negotiations forward.

According to press reports here, Soviet negotiators made a new proposal on long-range nuclear weapons last week that would limit each side to about 1,200 land and submarine-based multiple-warhead missiles and strategic bombers armed with cruise missiles. Single warhead missiles were not included in this limit.

However, the new proposal would let Moscow keep nearly all the big missiles that most threaten the United States and therefore does not deal with the weapons about which the Reagan Administration is most concerned.

Herr Egon Bahr, the Social Democratic defence and disarmament spokesman, has flown to Moscow a week after Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to tell the Soviet leadership his party's position on the deployment of Nato missiles and urge them to make the Geneva arms talks a success (Michael Binyon writes).

In three days of talks Herr Bahr, who publicly opposes deployment this autumn, will also explain his party's support for the Soviet contention that British and French missiles must be included in the arms talks. He said the number of warheads was growing each week.



Dropping in: US Marines parachuting over Beirut during an exercise with French and Lebanese soldiers. The peace-force troops jumped from a helicopter.

Special police unit to fight Jewish zealots

From Moshe Brilliant Jerusalem

The police in Jerusalem yesterday set up a special task force to enforce law and order in the Mea Shearim quarter of the city, a bastion of Jewish religious zealots who reject the Jewish state as "heretical".

The move came after nightly clashes this week in which both sides were reported to have used tear gas and the zealots threw stones, dropped cinder blocks from rooftops and set refuse ablaze. There were casualties on both sides.

The direct cause of this week's demonstrations was archaeological excavation in the city of David in Jerusalem which the zealots claim includes an area that has been a Jewish cemetery.

Ethiopia aid appeals fall on deaf ears

From Alan McGregor Geneva

The response to international aid appeals on behalf of some four million people suffering from the effects of drought in northern Ethiopia has so far been unsatisfactory. Mr Dawit Wolde Giorgis, the Ethiopian relief commissioner, said yesterday in Geneva.

About 900,000 tons of grain was needed for an 18-month emergency period but only 90,000 tons had as yet been offered after the March appeal by the UN Disaster Relief Office. Fifty four-wheel-drive lorries had been requested, but only spare parts for existing vehicles were forthcoming accompanied by a multinational maintenance team.

Reluctant bride's suicide shocks Italy

From Peter Nichols Rome

The suicide of a Calabrian girl, Maria Malolo, aged 17, who killed herself to avoid marrying a 37-year-old brick-layer chosen by her mother as her future husband, has caused an outcry in Italy.

The tragedy happened in the little town of Fabrizia in the hills overlooking the Ionian Sea. It is a poor place and the girl's family is modest. Maria first tried to kill herself by cutting her veins and then successfully by shooting herself low in the stomach.

The town is a short distance from the resorts of the Gulf of Squillace, but it is one of those corners of Old Calabria left relatively untouched by change.

The mother, who still apparently tries to maintain that her daughter wanted to marry the man the family had chosen for her, said her death occurred by accident while she was cleaning her father's shotgun.

The girl, her mother said, had lately become difficult after taking to smoking, and she added that she would not like this habit known to other people in Fabrizia.

On the day after the shooting the 14 members and friends of the family were described as grouped almost motionless like statues in the dark living room, occasionally making cries of grief as they passed a photograph of the girl from hand to hand.

Il Messaggero said that Maria was engaged two years ago to Signor Antonio La Rosa, who works near the northern city of Modena.

He accepted, as a condition of the marriage planned for next month, that he would not take Maria to Modena after the wedding, but leave her at her mother's home and send her living expenses every month.

It seems that Signor La Rosa knew nothing of her objection to him and had already accepted a postponement of the marriage. The conflict is seen to have been between the girl and her mother, between two generations of Calabrian women.

The Rome newspaper La Repubblica called it the Italian equivalent of the 450 brides burnt alive because their dowries were rejected as inadequate.

Gandhi dowry plea, page 7



Mr Asky: Murdered in busy street

Turkish envoy shot dead

Brussels - A Turkish diplomat was shot dead yesterday as he got into his car at the height of the morning rush hour in a busy Brussels street (Ian Murray writes).

Mr Dursun Asky, aged 39, was killed by two pistol shots fired through the windscreen. The assassin ran off and Armenian resistance groups later claimed responsibility.

ANKARA: Turkey has requested the Belgian authorities to adopt all necessary measures to ensure the capture and punishment of the assassin (Rasit Gurdilek writes).

Floods worsen

Buenos Aires (Reuters) - Severe flooding in north east Argentina worsened as the River Uruguay continued rising and a fresh surge of floodwater came downstream from Brazil on the River Parana. Damage is estimated to be more than \$650m and 126,000 people have been evacuated from their homes.

Rope trick

New York (Reuters) - Tehching Hsieh is to spend the next year tied by an 8ft rope to Linda Montano - in the name of art. He has already lived in a cage, punched a time-clock every four hours and camped on a Manhattan pavement, each for a year.

Nuclear halt

Washington (AP) - The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission yesterday ordered five nuclear reactors to be temporarily shut down within 30 days so officials can inspect cooling pipes for cracks.

Apartheid death

Pietermaritzburg (Reuters) - A Black South African child fell from a lorry and died after being refused admission to a hospital reserved for Indians.

THE TRUSTHOUSE FORTE PROMISE.

The minutes of the board meeting of Trusthouse Forte Hotels Limited on March 23rd 1983 stated that the company would freeze the published room rates of all UK Hotels until March 1st 1984. Then the policy is to keep prices in step with inflation. The company publishes this information as a public service.

Yours faithfully Trusthouse Forte

Muzorewa hits at Mugabe over attacks on churchgoers

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

The church in Zimbabwe was under persecution while basic freedoms of speech, assembly and worship were being suppressed, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, a former Prime Minister and resident bishop of the United Methodist Church, said in Harare yesterday.

At a rare press conference, Bishop Muzorewa accused the ruling Zanu (PF) party of being "anti-church, anti-God, anti-peace" and of having planned a riot last Sunday when a stone-throwing crowd disrupted the dedication of a new Methodist church near Harare.

The bishop, who had conducted the dedication service, said that trouble had started after a man riding a government-registered motorcycle circled the church several times "which appeared to be a signal to others to surround the fence and begin stoning people and cars."

The incident lasted for some hours and ended when the police dispersed the stone-throwers with tear gas. One of the parishioners, who is understood to have fired a number of shots after the stone-throwing started, was arrested.

Bishop Muzorewa, who headed the short-lived Zimbabwe Rhodesia administration before independence, said: "The involvement of a person with a government vehicle leaves no one with any doubt that this was a government and Zanu (PF) party joint-planned evil action."

He added that the service had nothing to do with the United African National Council, the political party of which he is leader. "One of the saddest things is that there are many parents in that service whose children and property were destroyed while trying to liberate this country. The freedoms for which they fought and died are being suppressed."

The House of Assembly on Wednesday approved by 58 votes to eight a further extension of the state of emergency.

Mr Josiah Chinamano, acting president of the opposition Patriotic Front party, said that the emergency powers were being misused and cited the detention of three MPs from his party.

● **JOHANNESBURG:** Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said yesterday that his latest application for a passport had apparently been rejected and that he would have to cancel a speaking tour of the US, Britain, Canada and New Zealand (AP reports).

Transkei changes homelands stance

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

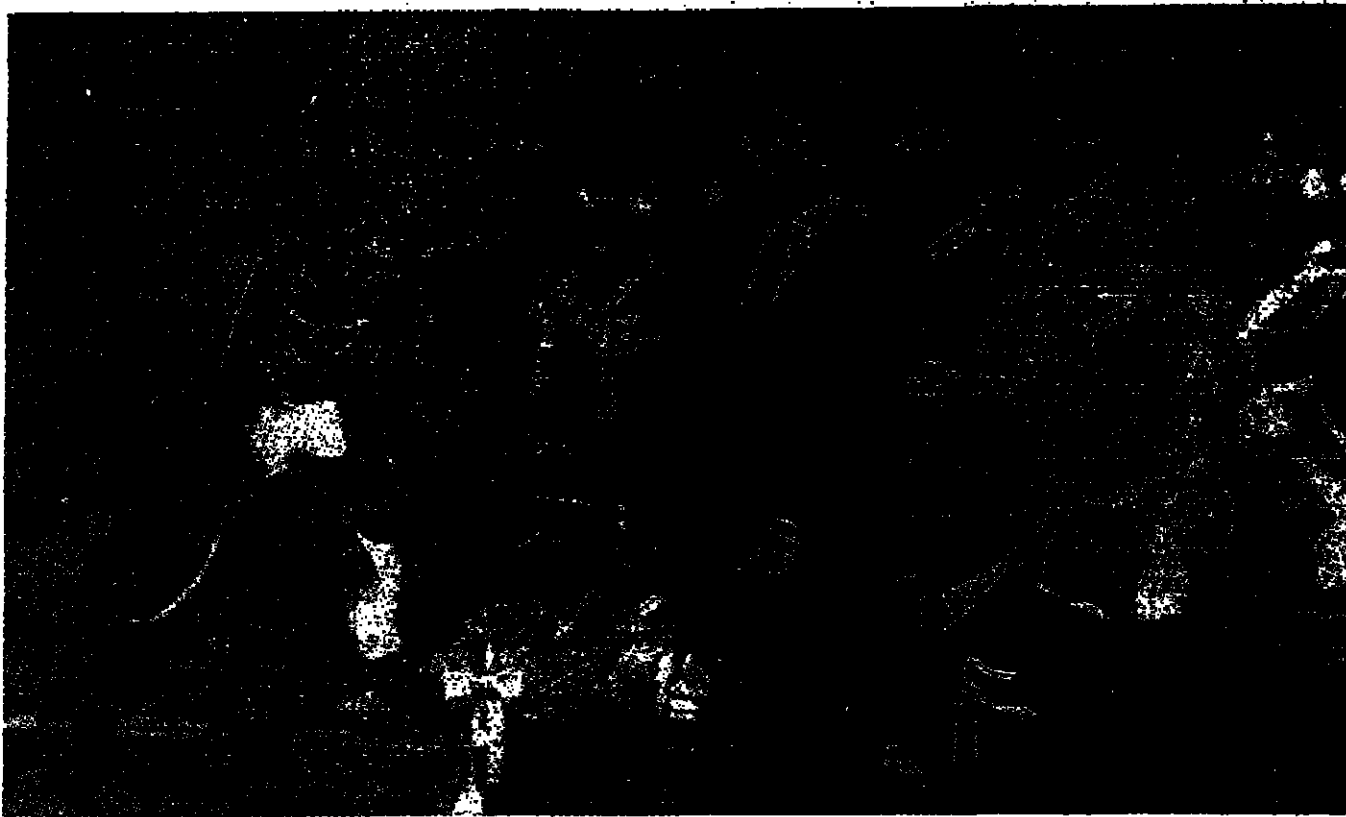
In a striking change of course, President Kaiser Matanzima of Transkei, one of South Africa's four "independent" tribal homelands, has pledged to work for the reintegration of his territory into "a greater South Africa" based on non-racialism, democracy and the equal distribution of land and wealth.

President Matanzima accepted this commitment in a document which he and five other homeland leaders signed after a little-publicized meeting near Johannesburg earlier this week.

The others present at the meeting were Chief Gataba Buthelezi of KwaZulu (Zulu) Dr Cedric Phatudi of Lebowa (North Sotho), Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi of Gazankulu (Shangaan/Tsonga), Mr Kenneth Mopeli of Qwaqwa (South Sotho), and Mr Enos Mabuza of Kangwane (Swazi).

The proposals, which are before the all-white House of Assembly, provide for a new tricameral Parliament for whites, mixed-blood Coloureds and Indians, subject to the veto of a powerful executive President nominated by the majority party in the white chamber. Black Africans would be excluded.

In their statement the six black leaders commit themselves "to reject the destiny prescribed for us by the white minority and to dismantle established institutions



Eyes right: President Mitterrand reviewing troops yesterday during the hour-long Bastille Day parade on the Champs Elysees. Next to the President is General Alban Barthez, military governor of Paris.

Lesotho holds two British 'spies'

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Two British passport-holders have been arrested in Lesotho after allegedly spying for an unnamed foreign power.

The two men, who have been identified as Mr Desmond McConigle and Mr Patrick Martin, were arrested by Lesotho's security police on June 30. The spying allegations arise out of documents said to have been found in their possession.

The police announcement said the two men had been watching the movements and homes of African National Congress refugees in Lesotho. They had also allegedly been monitoring security in Lesotho.

The two men were supposed to have been handed over to the British High Commission in Maseru, the Lesotho capital, yesterday morning. But at noon Mr Clive Clements, the British High Commissioner, said the men had not been produced. He said the men had come to Lesotho from South Africa in the past few weeks and had registered their presence with the High Commission, but nothing further was known about them.

Meanwhile, two Britons are reported to be among six people being held at Nampala in northern Mozambique after their Dartan-registered light aircraft landed there to refuel 18 days ago on a flight from the Comoros Islands. They had apparently not sought advance clearance to land.

Chile court releases party chiefs

Santiago (Reuter) - Señor Gabriel Valdés, the former Chilean Foreign Minister, and two other opposition leaders have been released from jail after being held in connexion with Tuesday's day of protest against the military Government.

A court dropped all proceedings against Señor Valdés, the president of the banned Christian Democratic Party, Señor José de Gregorio, its secretary general, and Señor Jorge Lavandero, a former senator. More than 400 people arrested on Tuesday were still held yesterday.

Massera order

Buenos Aires - An appeal for the release of Admiral Emilio Massera, the former Argentine Navy commander imprisoned on charges relating to the disappearance and presumed murder of a businessman in 1977, has been turned down by a local court.

Sex ruling

Paris - Shi Pei Pu, the Chinese opera singer charged with helping a French diplomat, M Bernard Bourisicot, to spy for the Chinese, is a man, French doctors have decided. The singer claimed to be a woman and to have borne a child by M Bourisicot.

Khomeini will

Tehran (AFP, Reuter) - A sealed copy of Ayatollah Khomeini's will was handed yesterday to an assembly of Iranian religious experts charged with choosing his successor. He is over 80. The experts burst into tears.

Fleet banned

Athens (AP) - The Greek Government yesterday confirmed reports that it has banned Greek port calls by US Seventh Fleet ships.

Cave copy

Montignac (AP) - The Lascaux Cave in south-west France with its famous 15,000-year-old rock paintings is to be open to the public from Monday - not the real thing, an exact replica. The originals are too precious.

Sweet and sour

Peking (AFP) - A Chinese play in which actresses swayed their bodies, snapped their fingers in time to music and put their arms around a man while singing, was attacked as disgusting yesterday by the English-language China Daily.

China wants OAU role in Chad

Peking (AFP) - Mr Wu Xueqin, the Chinese Foreign Minister, yesterday called for negotiations between warring factions in Chad in order to "prevent superpower meddling and sabotage".

Mr Idriss Miskine, the Foreign Minister of Chad, arrived here yesterday for a week-long official visit which observers thought could include a request for Chinese military aid for the Government in N'djamena of President Hissène Habré.

The Habré regime is fighting forces loyal to Mr Goukouni Oueddei, the former President, who was ousted from the capital in June last year by Mr Habré's troops after a long civil war.

Mr Wu expressed Peking's concern at the situation and its hope that the two sides would find a fair and reasonable solution, the New China news agency said. He advocated negotiations in an Organization of African Unity framework.

Mr Miskine told the Chinese minister that his Government intended to strengthen cooperation between Chad and China.

● **NDJAMENA:** Government troops appeared to have regained control over a string of vital towns north-east of the Chad capital yesterday after getting supplies of badly needed military equipment from France and other Western allies (Reuter reports).

Rifkind voices concern at human rights in Uganda

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Britain's newly-appointed Minister of State for African affairs, who is visiting Kampala on a tour of East Africa, has voiced Britain's concern about violations of human rights in areas near the city where an estimated 100,000 people have fled from their homes after intensive military operations against anti-government guerrillas.

The Canadian and Australian High Commissioners, who are based in Kenya, visited Uganda last week and made similar representations to President Obote and to Mr Paulo Murwanga, the Defence Minister and Vice-President.

After requests from the three Commonwealth countries, the Ugandan authorities allowed diplomats to visit parts of Luwero district, 30 miles north of Kampala, where tens of thousands of homeless people, including large numbers of children, are living in poor conditions in trading and mission centres after fleeing from their once prosperous farms.

Apart from an immediate need for food, water and medical facilities, there is a long-term problem if the farmers do not return quickly to their farms to plant food crops.

At some villages the displaced civilians are under armed guard, but in others they are apparently free to move in and out. They refuse to return to their farms for fear of being accused of supporting the guerrillas, or of being caught in crossfire between government troops and guerrillas.

Britain, the EEC and the United Nations are giving emergency help to the Uganda Government to finance food and relief supplies.

President Obote told the two High Commissioners last week that the Government wanted the displaced farmers to return to their homes, but they feared to do so. He denied local reports that Ugandan troops had been killing, robbing and raping civilians.

● **KAMPALA:** Mr Ernest Stern, senior World Bank vice-president, at the end of a four-day visit to Uganda, endorsed the economic policies of the Government and promised that the bank would continue its substantial lending programme to Kampala (AFP reports).

Island holiday village opens for business soon

Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

A Club Méditerranée holiday village, which has been criticized by MPs, should be ready for business by the end of next year, the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) promised yesterday. This comes after a contract had been signed by the club with Johnston International, a British company, which is due to start construction within four weeks.

The original agreement to build the complex on the Caribbean island of Providenciales, which belongs to the Turks and Caicos group, was signed in 1980.

The British Government contributed £5m to build an airport for the holidaymakers.

The airport and accompanying roads are now virtually complete. But Club Méditerranée's failure to have the village ready for this year's holiday traffic as agreed has led to unhappiness all round. In particular, it led to criticism of the ODA by the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee (Turks and Caicos Islands: Airport Development on Providenciales: Observations by the Government. HMSO £1.30 Cd 8979).

Hongkong is confident of capitalist future

from Richard Hughes, Hongkong

Despite the enforced silence of the negotiators, there is growing confidence in Hongkong about the outcome of talks on the future of the territory after 1997.

The public tends to be of the opinion that Hongkong life and living standards and capitalist trading methods will not be basically changed, if only because China itself would suffer as a result.

The Hongkong stock market has recovered from early weakness and more Chinese trading firms will operate in Hongkong.

China Resources, the leading Chinese trading corporation in Hongkong, registered unprecedentedly as a "holding" company this week.

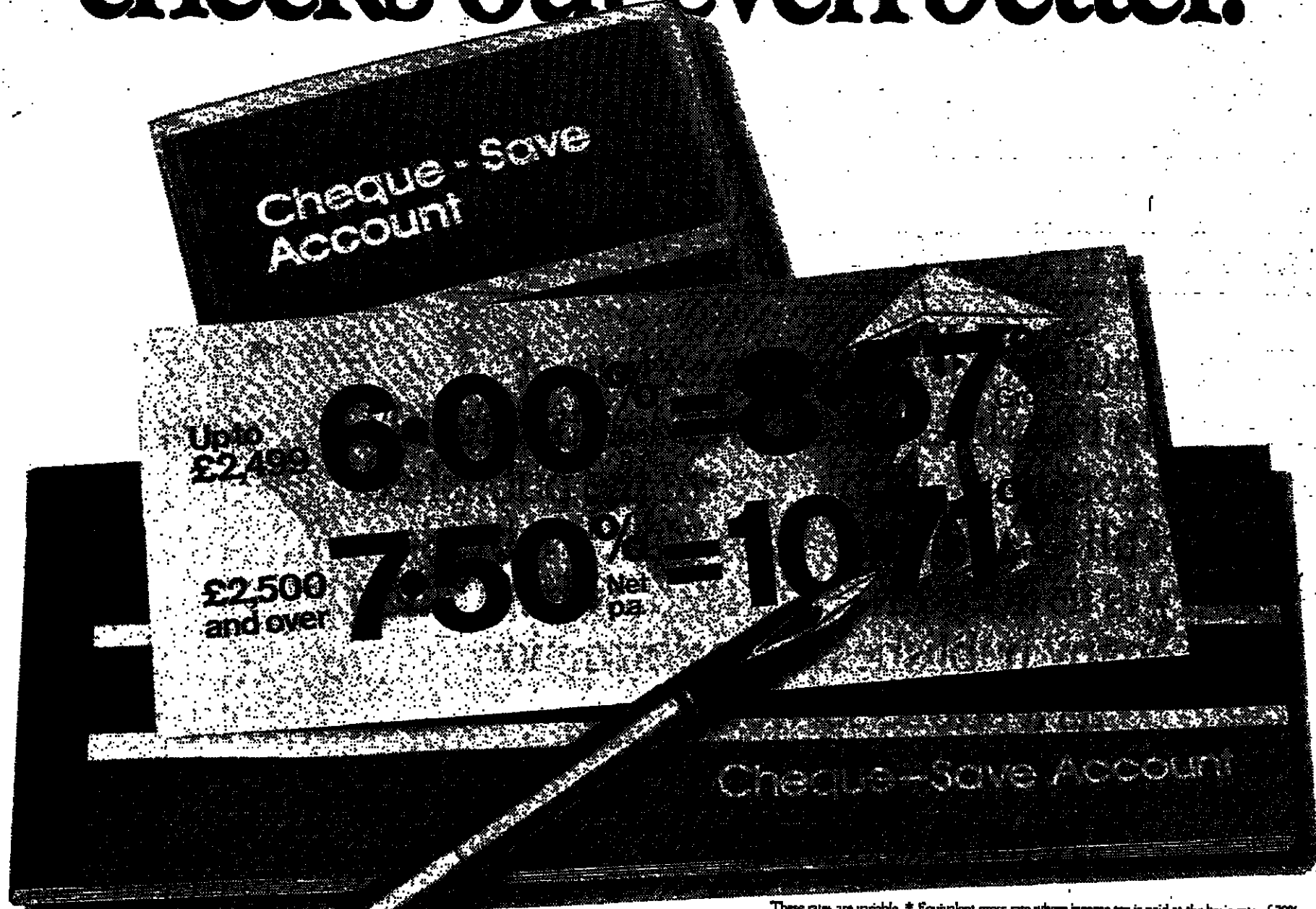
China Resources already has 15 department stores in Hongkong and now plans to establish a brewery.

Correction

The Manet exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris, details of which were published on July 9, is closed on Tuesdays. The Sunday entrance fee is 15 francs (£1.25), the same as on weekdays.

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سكرا من الاموال

Four presidents meet to revive flagging Central America peace initiative

The presidents of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama are to meet this weekend in southern Mexico in an apparent bid to inject fresh life into the flagging Central American peace process.

The Mexican Foreign Ministry announced on Wednesday afternoon that the presidents of the four countries which make up the Contadora Group, a group committed to peace by negotiation in Central America, will meet tomorrow and Sunday in the Caribbean resort of Cancun.

The meeting is to be held "in view of the escalation of the conflicts which endanger peace in Central America", a Mexican Foreign Ministry communiqué says.

The presidential meeting is unprecedented as the five meetings of the Contadora Group since its formation on January 9 this year have all been held at ministerial level.

This hastily arranged Cancun Group summit reflects the sense of urgency, as the Mexican Foreign Ministry communiqué says, with which the Contadora Group presidents view the need to reach "concrete agreements to reduce tensions" in Central America.

The choice of the word "concrete" here would seem to bear an implicit criticism of the Contadora Group's fruitless efforts so far to find a peaceful,

political way out of the region's violent conflicts.

Every meeting has ended in failure, accentuating the differences between the rival factions in Central America, particularly Honduras and Nicaragua, between whom the possibility of war has appeared progressively likely during the seven months that the Contadora Group has been in existence.

The announcement of the meeting tomorrow coincided with a claim by Nicaragua's Army Chief of Staff that more than 2,000 US-backed Nicaraguan rebels based in Honduras were poised to launch an invasion on two fronts.

The decision by the Contadora Group to raise the level of its peace initiative came also just five days after Señor Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, made an urgent plea to the Contadora Group to act more firmly in the face of what he called shameless US intervention designed to overthrow the Sandinista revolution.

Yesterday the four Contadora Foreign Ministers held a meeting in Panama City whose purpose was to adopt more specific plans for peace in Central America.

SAN SALVADOR: The outgoing US Ambassador to El Salvador warned the Reagan Administration against trying to

impose US standards (Reuters reports).

Mr Dean Hinton, who leaves El Salvador today, made his comments to the American Chamber of Commerce in his last public speech as ambassador.

He said it was too early to make an overall judgment about the success or failure of US policy in El Salvador. The two countries had become highly interdependent during three and a half years of civil war here.

Mr Hinton said: "We North Americans could make no bigger mistake than to think of El Salvador as just a Spanish-speaking equivalent of our own country."

"We will fail if we simply try to impose our standards without at least trying to adapt them to markedly different circumstances. Yet the tendency to do so is at all times almost irresistible."

Graves report disputed: El Salvador's rebel movement claimed on Wednesday that 97 bodies found in shallow graves in a cemetery were those of civilians, not guerrillas as the Army had claimed (AFP reports).

Radio Venceremos, voice of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, rejected an Army statement that the 97 were guerrillas killed in clashes with government forces.



Mother's day: Señora Rosemary Riberos, who was kidnapped and tortured by the Argentine military in 1975, is reunited at Lima international airport with her daughter Tamara after being separated for eight years. Señora Riberos, who is Bolivian, was freed in 1981 and now lives in Zurich.

Struggle for democracy

Uruguay's opposition parties call mass protest for August 6

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

Uruguay's opposition parties have issued a call for a mass demonstration on August 6 to support their demands for a "democratic constitution".

The call came after a meeting of the three permitted political parties, which withdrew from constitutional talks with the military regime on July 5. The parties said that the Government of General Gregorio Alvarez was refusing to make concessions on the type of constitution which is to be introduced prior to elections in November 1984.

The politicians will be seeking government authorization for the demonstration. If it goes ahead, it will be the first mass demonstration called jointly by all parties since 1938. The organisers said they hope to repeat the experience of 45 years ago, when opposition groups demanded the end of the dictatorship of President Gabriel Terra.

At the root of the disagreement are radically different ideas of the type of constitution the country should have. The armed forces, according to a civilian politician, "look at the constitution through the keyhole of subversion". They are demanding changes that will continue to give them a free hand against all forms of opposition.

This means the effective removal of habeas corpus mechanisms, the preeminence

of military over civilian courts, the removal of constitutional guarantees preventing the security services from entering private homes without search warrants, the widening of state-of-siege powers, and even the right of the armed forces to dictate national security policy to an elected government.

The politicians feel that if they accept these changes they will end up not with democracy but with "a caricature of democracy".

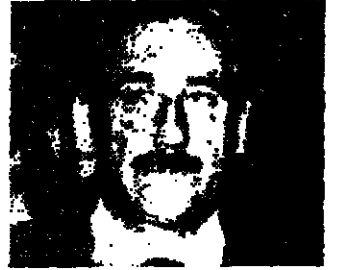
Another reason for their withdrawal was the Government's failure to demonstrate real liberalization. Instead the "political dialogue" was

led by the politicians. In a wave of arrests over the past few weeks more than 60 student activists have been imprisoned and, according to relatives, savagely tortured. Some have been charged with membership of the banned Communist Party.

The country is now on tenterhooks: the politicians insist that the elections promised for November, 1984, cannot be cancelled, while senior military officers have often hinted that failure to reach agreement in the constitutional talks would lead to at least a postponement.

Señor Julio Sanguinetti, a leading member of the Colorado Party, pointed out that "the elections were not part of an agreement between the armed forces and the political parties. The armed forces promised the nation as a whole that there would be elections. The parties are describing the suspension of talks as a "ruse" to give the Government time to reflect and alter its position. In the meantime, Señor Alberto Zumaran, a member of the Blancos, has proposed a "front for the defence of democracy". The Government, has few immediate options. If it sticks to its hard line, it will have to proceed against the wishes of the majority. That implies a new wave of repression at a time of economic weakness and against the grain of international opinion.

General Alvarez: Refusing concessions accompanied by arrests and the closure of opposition magazines. Señor Carmine Mederos Galvan, a delegate of the Blanco Party, was arrested and tried before military courts on charges of insulting the armed forces.



General Alvarez: Refusing concessions accompanied by arrests and the closure of opposition magazines.

Canberra minister quits in scandal

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

Mr Mick Young, the Special Minister of State, resigned from the Federal Cabinet last night in the wake of a scandal which followed the expulsion of a Soviet diplomat.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, said that he had asked the Attorney-General to investigate if there had been any breach of the Federal Crimes Act.

The resignation shook Canberra yesterday as there had been no indication anything was amiss. Shortly before 5pm, Mr Hawke called a press conference and announced that Mr Young had offered his resignation and that he had with regret considered it necessary to accept.

Mr Hawke said that the circumstances involved in Mr Young's decision related to matters which would be dealt with by the Hope Royal Commission. The matter goes back to the expulsion on April 22 of Mr Valery Ivanov, a First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra. Some weeks later, Mr Hawke announced that Mr David Combe, a former national secretary of the Labour Party and a Canberra lobbyist, had had links with Mr Ivanov and that he had forbidden ministers from having any further contact with Mr Combe.

At his press conference yesterday, Mr Hawke said: "I have this afternoon received a letter from Mr Young tendering his resignation from the ministry. I have, with regret, con-

sidered it necessary to accept his resignation. The circumstances involved in his decision go to matters which will be dealt with by the Hope Royal Commission.

"I refer particularly to Clause 17 of the issues to be resolved in respect of Paragraph C of the commission's terms of reference. That is, and I quote, 'Was there any unauthorised or improper disclosure by any and what minister, of information made available to the NIS committee concerning the relationship between Combe and Ivanov before May 11.'

"I am also seeking an opinion from the Attorney General as to whether any offence may have been committed under the Crimes Act. It is perfectly clear that I am, therefore, at this point unable to answer any questions on this matter.

"I need hardly say that the resignation of Mr Young, who is a close friend and valued colleague over many years, and my necessary acceptance of that resignation, is for me a matter of profound personal sadness."

Mr Hawke refused to be drawn, other than to say that Mr Young would be replaced by Mr Kim Beasley. Mr Young had responsibility for electoral reform and was considered a trouble-shooter for the Government. He is aged 46, represents a South Australian constituency, and is a former shearer.

Gandhi plea on dowry killings

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, yesterday spoke out against crimes against women but insisted social change was the only way of combating them. "Why should society tolerate them?" she asked a meeting of voluntary social workers.

She referred to the spate of murders or suicides of young married women pressed for increased dowry, and declared: "We are making the laws very much stronger, but laws can never solve it."

"No matter how clever you are there will always be some loopholes that some lawyers can take advantage of..."

Talking to a group of chairmen of state social welfare boards, she said that what would be really effective against the dowry crimes would be a change in public opinion, "that is, public opinion as a whole and not a women's group or a group of committed people or people who want to exploit the situation politically".

President Zail Singh, addressing the same meeting, also insisted that any number of laws would not help in checking the atrocities against women, "unless there is a corresponding social and mental awakening, and a voice raised against this evil".

US-Ireland extradition deal signed

Washington (Reuters) - Ireland and the United States have signed an extradition treaty designed to make it more difficult for wanted fugitives such as guerrillas and drug smugglers from one country to take refuge in the other.

Mr William French Smith, the US Attorney General, said that the treaty would redress an "intolerable situation" in which neither country could seek the arrest and extradition of a fugitive from the other.

While officials at the signing ceremony did not mention the Irish Republican Army or other guerrilla groups, Justice Department sources said that the treaty emphasized President Reagan's commitment to deter the spread of terrorism.

The treaty, signed after six years of negotiations, does not cover Northern Ireland. But Britain has an extradition treaty with the United States and can seek the return of suspected criminals wanted in northern Ireland.

Officials of both countries said that they had no immediate plans to seek arrest or extradition of fugitives. But the Justice Department said that American fugitives had in the past gone to the Irish Republic seeking refuge from US charges "on everything from murder to fraud".

Nepal Cabinet set up

Katmandu (AFP) - King Birendra has approved a 21-member council of Ministers under Lokendra Bahadur Chand, the new Prime Minister, after the dissolution of the Nepalese Government on Monday, Nepal radio announced.

Mr Chand, appointed to replace Surya Bahadur Thapa, who was ousted by a no-confi-

"A great little performer Great value too!"

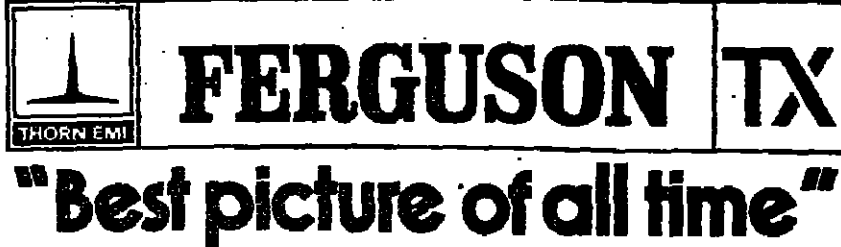


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THE ARTS

Cinema

Glimpses of human credibility

"Private Lives": Seven New Soviet Films National Film Theatre

Smash Palace (18) Screen on Islington Green; Cinecanta, Leicester Square

Students of the characters in Russia's classical literature know well the persistent national trait of preferring not to acknowledge unpalatable truths...

characters existing in a world as messy and imperfect as any other. With its fair share of drunks and pickpockets, divorces and unhappy families...

Easily the best and most significant of the group is The Train Has Stopped ("A Train Stopped") which deals squarely with the national problem of the acceptable untruth...

The townspeople insist on erecting a monument to the "heroic" driver's memory, become increasingly hostile and obstructive to this seeker after inconvenient truth...

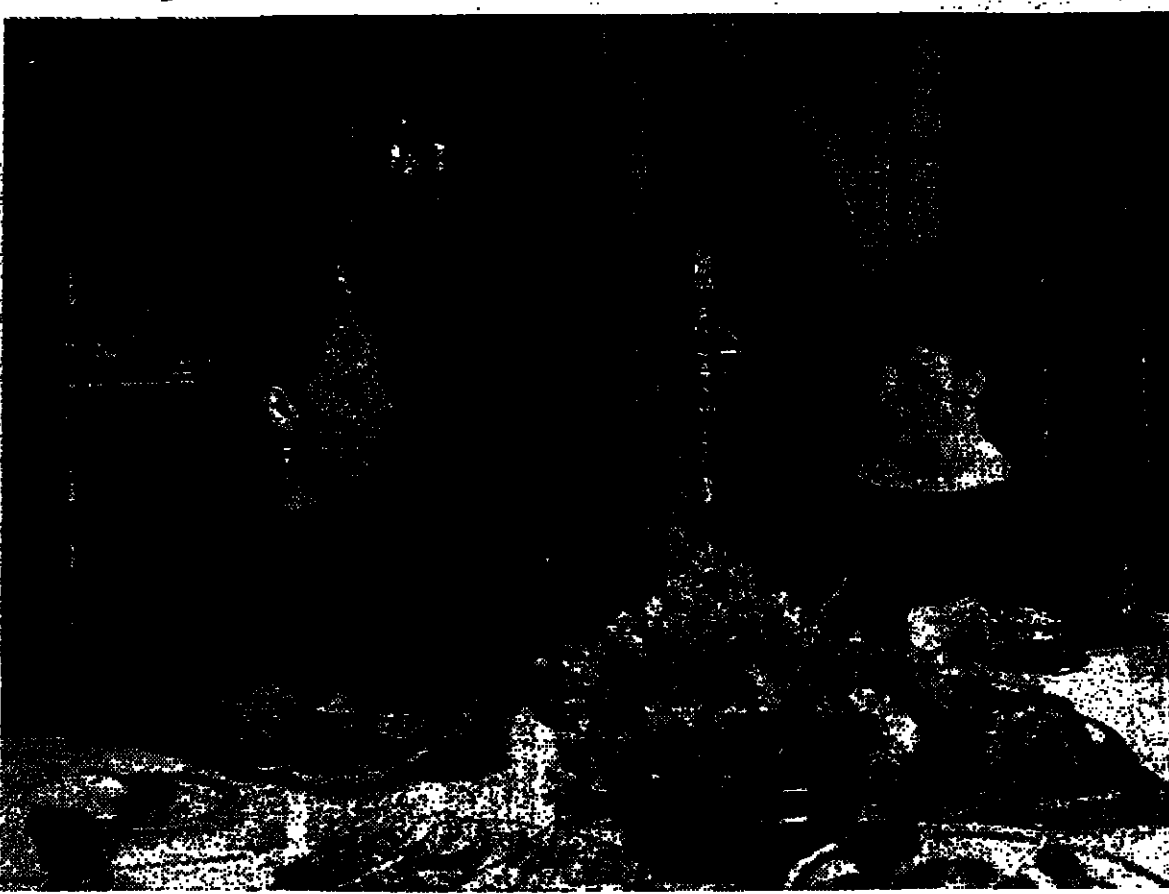
Some of the films in the National Film Theatre's forthcoming (July 25-30) survey of recent Soviet work show a marked step forward in this respect...

the historical reasons which have made the role of investigator and interrogator in itself suspect for Russians.

Abdrashitov is a member of the group at Mosfilm Studios led by Yuri Raizman, perhaps the least known in this country of the great Soviet veterans. Now almost 80, and with a directing career stretching back 36 years...

Sergei Mikheev's Love By Request and Eldar Ryazanov's Station for Two also admit that life is not all sun and sunshine, but they soften the blow with romantic comedy.

The director Gleb Panfilov, explaining the "arrest" of his film Tema, to Ian Christie, who has organized this season, said significantly: "There is a saying - a truth not spoken in its proper time is an unwelcome truth."



But who are the real heirs? - Anna Churikova as Vassa Zheleznova, with Valentina Yakovina as her revolutionary daughter-in-law, in Panfilov's Vassa

quite great characters, after the revolution. Vassa is a Russian hand who runs a family shipping enterprise...

To suit the style of his actress Anna Churikova, Panfilov has made Vassa more sympathetic than she is actually, and the gifted designer Nikolai Dvighibsky has provided her with a house of My Fair Lady art nouveau marvels...

When Vassa dies her servants take possession of her goods, like jewels. The scene cuts to the same Vassa city today, with motor cars and high-rises...

Sarah Palace shows the New Zealand cinema competing strongly against the Australians. Roger Donaldson's first film, Sleeping Dogs, was an effective future-world thriller...

old daughter, Al, devoted to his wife's feelings. She in turn is self-centred and selfish. When the inevitable break-up comes, she walks out of Al's Smash Palace...

Al Shav, a part-retired racing driver, lives in his car-wrecking yard with his French wife, Jacqueline (Anna Jemison) and their seven-year-

David Robinson

Television

Good-humoured but salutary

James Boswell has waited two centuries for his television debut, but he could not have arrived at a more opportune moment...

Lear has, at least in modern productions, been played in less time - but a good script can go a long way. Although it might suggest a conflation of Emma's Farm and Police 5, this was in fact a spirited and engaging production...

alleys like a pantomime horse. Scottish law is apparently quite different from the English variety. In this case, in the courtroom at least, it was pure opera buffa.

Peter Ackroyd

ECO/Hogwood-Barbican

Until Leonard Bernstein is invited to conduct the Academy of Ancient Music, or Sir Georg Solti zips through a few symphonies with the English Concert, I suppose the nearest we shall get to exploring the no-man's-land between ancient and modern playing...

It was not a head-on collision for Hogwood: it is too pragmatic a musician to demand the overnight conversion of the ECO to the ancient playing techniques of Muffat and Corelli...

But the spectacle was still that of the gently undulating in pursuit of the gloriously unobtainable. Whatever Hogwood did, the violins still warmed each note with cuddly vibrato...

Nicholas Kenyon

Concerts

Messiah St Paul's Cathedral

Although this Messiah did not involve a chorus of thousands, as it might have a century ago, it took place in a church and everyone (except myself) stood for the Hallelujah Chorus. This was an occasion which fell into the category of ritual rather than performance.

In the circumstances it was almost impossible to judge the quality of the London Bach Orchestra's playing, although the general effect seemed fine. But this was a performance craving much more drama and uninhibited joy.

Stephen Pettitt

Theatre As You Like It Chichester

The first thing you see is a Watteauesque company dancing a minuet in the orchard and only scattering when Orlando marks the cadence with a blow of his axe.

Patrick Garland, in other words, has gone the full eighteenth-century hog in this production: not only in costume and Gallic pronunciation, which causes havoc to the verse when Jacques loses a syllable...

Aubrey Woods doubles as the usurping Frederic and the Duke Senior; and the whole show takes place with an upstage instrumental group who supply courtly accompaniment for the woodland songs...

Trevor Nunn and Stephen Oliver made such an experiment with this play in the late Seventies, and drastically revised it en route from Stratford to London on making the discovery that their actors were ill-equipped to handle eighteenth-century vocal flourishes.

For instance, when we get to meet the rustics they are a miscellaneous collection of stereotyped yokels and genteel speakers (like Eunice Roberts's Phebe) who could be courtiers in pastoral fancy dress.

David Robinson

ACADEMY CINEMA TWO ERIC ROHMER'S prize-winning PAULINE AT THE BEACH

CONFIDENCE PLOUGHMANS CAFE MAYFAIR THE KING OF COMEDY

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TOYAH WILL COX TRAFFORD TANZI It's quite simply, unique in the history of the British Theatre. GLORIOUS, LIBERATING, BLISSFULLY FUNNY! MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 8568

Music in Sweden The past made fresh and vivid Entering the palace theatre at Drottningholm, it is less like walking into the past than having the past come up and hit one in the face. While most buildings have gained quite some patina after the passing of two centuries, here the wall-paper could have been nailed up barely last week...

IT'S LONDONS GREAT NIGHT OUT! "Decadence with Style" "Lavish Late Night Entertainment" "Sophistication the cabaret's spot on target" "Genuinely spectacular" "Tongue-in-cheek humour" "The Audience is stunned" 9th GREAT MONTH ROSE THE SPECTACULAR GLAMOROUS REVUE Theatre Restaurant Bar LAIRDIXO

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 25 من الاصل

FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Killer without a cause

The tragic death this week of Keith Wickenden, popular MP, experienced pneumonia and adventurous tycoon, was widely reported to be due to pulmonary sarcoidosis. Although this disease is not rare, it is little known to the general public. Its cause is unknown, but it results in chronic inflammation, usually in the lymphatic glands, the lungs, the inner eye and the skin.

Frequently it attacks more than one site, sometimes the disease is associated with changes in calcium metabolism. The inflammation in the lungs, later leading to fibrosis (scarring), and frequently coupled with enlargement of the glands at the base of the lungs, can give rise to marked breathlessness and tiredness, so that patients see their doctors fairly early in the disease. Ninety per cent of patients, usually treated with steroids, recover within two years; 10 per cent tend to develop a so-called progressive sarcoidosis which can be controlled, but not quickly cleared, with the same drugs.

Dr Robert Davies, chest physician to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said that heart involvement, although very rare, is in his view, the most common cause of death in sarcoidosis. The disease can either attack the muscles of the heart, giving rise to a cardiomyopathy, or the heart's conducting system; damage to the latter can cause irregular action of the heart and sudden death.

Gardening hazards

Little did Adam, God's first gardener, know that the serpent was not the only danger lurking in the Garden of Eden. Dead, heading the roses, picking the gooseberries, or slashing the black-thorn has its hazards too.

Rheumatologists have long known that, however carefully doctors remove a thorn which has penetrated a joint cavity some traces are left behind and can be seen under the microscope. In people sensitive to extracts of plant thorns this can give rise to an acute arthritis, plant thorn synovitis, in the pierced and impregnated joint.

Dr S. J. Hawkins of The Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases in Bath has now described a case, where rheumatoid arthritis

followed an attack of plant thorn synovitis. The luckless rose pruner developed classic rheumatoid arthritis within a week or two; well within a year her blood not only showed the serological changes associated with that disease, but also demonstrated an immune reaction wherever extract of rose thorn was injected.

Gardeners are not necessarily safer if they hang up the secateurs, abandon the garden, and take refuge with the cat beside the fireside, for another case of mono-articular arthritis was demonstrated in London this week: this time a cat flea was the causative agent.

Deaf shots

Rifle shooting reaches its climax at Bisley this month; the Ashburton yesterday, the Queen's Prize next week. Next month, the "glorious twelfth" starts the shooting season. Throughout the summer, sportsmen have been shattering clay pigeons, while their compatriots in the Territorial Army have been hitting target tanks on the gunnery ranges at Lulworth. Twenty years ago these pursuits would have been quite noisy enough to ensure that Harley Street would have had a steady supply of prematurely deafened men.

The Army, mindful of hearing forever damaged by the war or national service, is now very strict; plugs or ear defenders are compulsory on the small arms ranges, and tank crews are protected by "bone domes", crash-helmet-type headgear which combines headphones and ear protectors.

Although Purdeys, the Queen's gunsmiths, said they encourage their customers always to use ear plugs, Peter Brown an Oxfordshire expert, and a shooting man himself, said he was appalled at the number of fellow gunners who were still prepared to destroy pheasants and hearing in the same afternoon.

Acute deafness, often associated with ringing in the ears, usually improves after 24 hours, but each episode causes some residual damage which may not be noticeable until revealed by impairment in hearing in middle age.

Plugs are cheap. Even the most expensive are under £7, so the older shot now shouting at his family, and deaf to his grandchildren, may well wish that he had invested in some 30 years earlier; even now it is not too late to start wearing them so as to preserve what hearing is left.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford Medical Correspondent

No millions for Mrs Said

Penny Perrick on the marital problems of Muslim women



Mrs Mariyam Said, lately of Oman, presently living in Earl's Court, London, read about Marvin Mitchell's latest divorce court triumph with some bitterness. Mr Mitchell's client, a 24-year-old European-born former shop assistant, won a record-breaking £50m share of her Saudi Arabian husband's property, a settlement beyond the dreams of Arab women like Mrs Said, however rich the husbands they are divorcing.

Mrs Said was married against her will to her first cousin in 1975 when she was 23. Five years later she was divorced without her knowledge. She said that her situation is typical of women in the Gulf States. "After the men have finished with you they like you to go back to your own family and live like a nanny, looking after their children, whom they might occasionally visit."

She was sent over to England as a young girl and educated at a secondary school in North London. Later she got a job with the Midland Bank and rented a flat. She said she never intended to become a traditional Muslim wife, shrouded in dark robes, humbly subservient to her husband and living a below-stairs kind of life with her female in-laws. But Mrs Said said that she was tricked into just such a marriage by her father and uncle who wanted their jointly owned property to remain in the family.

First her uncle came to London and persuaded her to come home for a holiday. At Bahrain airport she was greeted effusively by her uncle's son who, in the airport's confusion, managed to take away her passport. This man was 30 years old and his parents stressed how anxious they were to see him married. Mrs Said asked to be allowed to return to England to consider the prospect, but great pressure was put on her by both families and even by her future husband's employer to get the wedding over quickly.

For the first six months of their marriage Mrs Said was a kindly, indulgent husband, frequently bringing his wife to London for great shopping binges at Selfridges. Trouble began when Mrs Said insisted on having her first baby delivered at Queen Charlotte's Hospital since she found the medical facilities at home very primitive. This new-fangled idea of hers annoyed her mother-in-law not, apparently, a woman to be trifled with.

By the time the Saids' second son was born in 1979, they were a family at war. Mr Said continued to visit his old Oxford Street haunts, but now he left his wife and children at home. The following year, during one of his absences, his brothers came to Mrs Said's house and

dismissed the servants. When Mr Said returned he spent most of his time at his mother's house, coming home to his wife only to threaten her.

The Saids' house was leased to them by the international construction company which employed Mr Said. Soon after the chair-throwing incident Mrs Said - she suspects on her husband's say-so - received a letter from the company terminating the lease. Hoping to cool the air, Mrs Said's father-in-law bought her a return ticket to London and, since she was now worried about her own safety, she flew there with her children. Drawn, inevitably, to Oxford Street, Mrs Said saw her husband strolling hand in hand with a glamorous blonde.

Leaving the children in London, she flew home and went straight to the Minister of Justice, demanding that her husband be forced to explain himself in court - "because of the last three years I had no idea whether I had a husband or not". In court, Mr Said said that he had divorced his wife in 1980 on the grounds of her desertion. Mrs Said said: "Since we had been living together for most of that year, I wanted to know just when he had divorced me. There were no records of the divorce, although my husband insisted that he had brought two witnesses. He said that no one had told me that I was divorced because if I knew, then I might remarry and my property would pass to a stranger."

Mrs Said insisted on her right to have proper divorce papers and asked for a reasonable amount of maintenance. Although her husband now owned a tile factory, sports shop and several properties the sum awarded to her, on condition that she and the children moved permanently to Oman, was just about enough to pay half the electricity bill. Since she couldn't support two small children on this meagre settlement, she came back to London where she now lives on her own dwindling family capital and her salary as a part-time computer analyst.

Compared to her own five divorced aunts, who has no choice but to return in disgrace and poverty to their families, Mrs Said considers herself lucky. She has a job, a home of her own and freedom to marry again. Nevertheless, she has made her children wards of court, refuses to reveal her real name or to be photographed for this article and puts up with the fact that her flat looks out on to a thunderous stretch of dual-carriageway "because I can see if anyone is coming up the street now he left his wife and children at home. The following year, during one of his absences, his brothers came to Mrs Said's house and

TALKBACK

Offended parents

From Trevor Berry, Bromley, Kent. The term "one parent family" is offensive to non-custodial parents keen to preserve a worthwhile responsible role as parents. It was therefore disappointing to see Malcolm Wicks, Director of the Centre for Family Policy Studies, make liberal use of that expression (Family policy test, Wednesday Page, June 29).

The much publicized idea that most divorced men fail in their financial obligations may be a myth. A "survey of access to children after divorce" undertaken among Gingerbread and Families Need Fathers members (Divided Children, 1982 - £1.00) showed that nearly 70 per cent of the custodial mothers were receiving maintenance payments, of whom over 50 per cent were happy with the amount they were receiving. So the study suggests that the majority of separated fathers accept the financial obligation to their absent families to the best of their ability.

"Children of separated parents" would be more apt and less emotive than "one parent family" if it is really the children whose welfare is paramount.

Private grief

From John Hilton, Bath District Schizophrenia Group. Mrs Stokes's harrowing account (Wednesday page, June 29) of her collision with the "open door" policy, plus a psychiatrist with libertarian principles, tells it all. But there is no general recognition of the extent of similar suffering. Many of the million or so first degree relatives of people with schizophrenia in this country can tell equally agonizing stories.

The tide set rolling by anti-psychiatry gossippers, together with "rights" campaigners, long ago passed the point at which net benefit turned to net damage.

There must be few patients left who are needlessly and unwillingly "incarcerated" and for every one of these there must be thousands needing proper care and not getting it. Tens of thousands more are about to be added to those whose "community care" is often, at the best, a back bedroom in the flat of an ailing widowed mother.

This sort of privatization helps balance budgets. But it would cost the Exchequer or the rates nothing if psychiatrists and administrators - except for clear reasons against - were to recognize relatives as the primary care agents - which they frequently are, and collaborate with them instead of, so often, treating them as non-persons.

School where Protestant and Catholic children learn to live in harmony Breaching the Belfast wall

At an end-of-term barbecue on the shores of Belfast Lough, the principal of the province's first fully-integrated secondary school for Roman Catholics and Protestants could hardly conceal her delight that she was still enrolling pupils for the next school year.

For when Lagan College opened two years ago there were only 28 pupils whose families had taken the risk of supporting a unique venture in particularly unsuitable terrain. Many armchair dreamers had wished to challenge the sectarian nature of Northern Ireland's education system, but here was a charitable trust actually doing something concrete, even though it was the year of the 11 black hunger-strike. One year later the idea had taken root: there were 90 pupils on the register, and in September 72 new boys and girls will enter the school's still temporary home in south Belfast.

Perhaps even more will enroll during the two-month summer holiday and show that despite the building of a brick wall in north Belfast as a permanent barrier between Roman Catholics and Protestants, there are middle and working-class parents of both faiths prepared for their children to learn together about their separate cultures and traditions. Only one child has withdrawn from the school and no parent has so far requested that his or her child should no longer attend shared religious education classes.

A crucial moment has however, been reached: the school is about to apply to the Northern Ireland Office for government aid. Until now Lagan has survived on generous grants and response to public appeals, but it now believes it will be able to meet the government

requirement for a minimum of 300 pupils to show that there is a demand for its type of education. Government policy is to encourage integrated education in the province and teachers and parents hope the liberally-minded Nicholas Scott, Under-Secretary of State, responsible for education in the province will favour their application. If he does not, Northern Ireland will hear loud protests.

In her first term, the principal, Mrs Sheila Greenfield, had 300 applicants for staff jobs. Three full-time teachers engaged for next term have taken a drop in salary to join, and two part-timers have given up full employment to participate in the experiment. The only sign - apart from Christian names, which in the province are often the best clue to a person's religion - that the school is inter-denominational occurs at assembly, when half the children make the sign of the Cross. Even at times of sectarian tension on the streets there have been no clashes on the school premises, though the teachers are adamant that the differences between the two creeds are not ignored.

A mixture of Irish and British Commonwealth history, is taught - the battle of the Boyne as well as the 1916 rising. "It is probably the most exciting and taxing teaching job in Northern Ireland," because it sharpens everyone's historical awareness," the history teacher said. "The children are always prepared to listen to what the other side have been told, and then they bounce ideas around in class."

The Irish language is now on the curriculum; literature is a blend of the best from both countries. School sport includes both soccer and Gaelic football.

With its equal representation of Roman Catholic and Protestant among pupils, teachers and governors, Lagan is unique. But as Mrs Greenfield explained: "These children have to spend the rest of their lives together in Northern Ireland, so they need to spend their school holidays learning to respect and trust each other. No wonder mistrust and fears build up if they are segregated. It is ridiculous because higher education in the province is not segregated."

Paddy O'Hanlon's 13-year-old son Cormac left a Roman Catholic boys' grammar school to go to Lagan and quickly met his best friend - a Protestant from East Belfast. Cormac was at first nervous and unsure, but now the two are almost inseparable, meeting regularly during school holidays and often at weekends, when they telephone each other and go to Belfast to the cinema. Cormac's mother said: "We sent him to Lagan because he started to use slang about Protestants in the home, and we didn't want it to continue. Now Protestants are just other boys, though he still has problems going to school in case youths from a Catholic secondary school in the neighbourhood see his blazer and tie and start to mock him. But we're delighted with how he is developing into such a more easy-going boy."

Though Lagan has so far triumphantly confuted the cynics, there are problems, and its future is uncertain. It is anxiously awaiting report from the inspector of education on its standards, and it is constantly aware of the danger of becoming a haven for middle-class children who have failed the 11 plus. It is slowly attracting pupils from the working class but Lagan dearly wants also to recruit more from the

impovertised areas as well as increased numbers of girls and children who have been offered grammar school places.

Protestant chaplains visit the school, though no Roman Catholic priest has officially done so and the local Catholic bishop, Dr Cahal Daly, without naming Lagan, appeared critical when he said it was a pity people opted out of a well-organized system of religious education into which the church had put vast resources. Many people in the province had expected a more positive approach but Dr Daly has big problems to confront. A convinced ecumenist, he is having to move carefully as it is known that some of the conservative elements in the diocese are resisting his ideas.

But the most urgent problem is finance. Latest enrolments, however, have convinced the governors that when it reaches a five-form entry Lagan will have achieved the target of 300 pupils. Fees at £625 a year with a sliding scale according to parental income have helped towards that target, but with no assistance for books, school meals or transport, the staff admit it has been a struggle.

Government policy is to encourage integration in a province where 90 per cent of secondary education is segregated, but at a time of dwindling school rolls and schools closing through fear it might be embarrassed to be seen offering a grant to Lagan. But after all the talking from ministers about the two traditions learning to respect each other and the distinctive "witness" of the Northern Ireland team at Stormont, many believe if Lagan meets the criteria, its case will be almost irresistible.

Richard Ford

FIRST PERSON

It is wet and raining and I am gazing out of the window at the rain teeming down in front of the rather severe facade of Bromsgrove Library opposite. My state of mind is close to utter boredom. I've tried reading The Times to alleviate the boredom because I know it's all in the mind, but after an hour I am beyond it and need to do something other than wait for the odd phone call to invade the silence.

The problem may be that I work for four hard-working men, often out of the office, and I am simply the temporary typist from the agency who is supposed to recharge the coffee percolator, answer the door and the telephone and type their beautifully. On the phone I am to give the impression of a vastly efficient, well run office, but what actually happens is that the phone rings so rarely that I have forgotten which temp job it is and I answer with delay and vagueness. The typing work comes in occasionally,

Travails and travels of an office gypsy

but is always needed, urgently, so that instead of calmly typing it, panic sets in.

Temp jobs keep the adrenaline going. The state of fear on Monday mornings when being instructed on the job, the names of the people in the office, the machinery, where the "ladies" is - not to mention trying to find the office - all tend to be overwhelming, but it does keep one in a state of challenge.

Usually, on Day One you manage to get going with the typewriter, telephones etc., and you put out tentative feelers as to who might be friends. In typing pools, people tend to be pretty friendly on Day One, because they are often manned by "losers" - people who simply pound away, supervised by some inferior dragon, simply because they have to earn the money and have not got the qualifications to do anything else. In other places, if they are English, it takes about three days to have any real communication. There are sometimes appalling

failures. One day the first person I met was a worried-looking ex-army/naval man who "managed" the office. There had obviously been some "temp" trouble (i.e. an unsatisfactory previous one) and then I saw the electronic typewriter, which I had not a clue how to work. He felt I could easily manage it and I was game to have a go, but the office was a tiny sort of corridor shared by three other women and a pekingese. A couple of hours later, a raging headache and a wastepaper basket full of my efforts on the unconquered electronic machine, I decided to give up.

Another disaster was in a tax accountant's. True to form, there were elegant offices upstairs - and downstairs - were poky, subterranean areas where the clients rarely came. The job was audio typing and I could not understand most of what the man said - and when I could it simply was - not English. I just bashed out as much as I could, roughly, realizing the hopelessness.

Jean Southon

THE TIMES Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



British Grand Prix: Silverstone report and how to become a racing car driver.



The Open Golf Championship - the third day

Tom Watson, U.S. hope

England v. New Zealand - the First Test at the Oval



Travel: Journey to the land of the troglodytes: on the trail to Tucson, Arizona: Weekend Break

Family Money: Where is the mortgage money going?

Plus

News from home and abroad; Values on diets and exercise; Video cassettes of the month; Drink on New Zealand wines; preview of new Cyrano de Bergerac play; Critics' Choice of what's on in the cinema and on the stage; and a selective guide to the coming week's events

THE TIMES DIARY

Disinherited

Poor old Peter Shore is not having much luck in his bid to become leader of the Labour Party. Even his own constituency party in Bethnal Green and Stepney has voted to support Eric Heffer instead. Shore did lead Heffer and Kinnock on the first ballot of his constituency general management committee, but on the second, with Kinnock eliminated, he went down by 32 votes to 29.

Bearish

I see now where the Royal Mint went wrong over the £1 coin. They should have sold it for £1.10. The mint's Australian counterpart is currently advertising a 10 gramme gold \$300 coin, bearing a koala design. It is a limited issue (they are not saying how many) and will be available only at building society branches - by price \$210. Orders have to be in by August 19, and at present Australians can order as many golden koalas as they want - but the Royal Australian Mint reserves the right to close the offer at any time. I regard this as a money-making business which could be a pretty good racket.

Now that Britain is swooning in heat and even Eskimos must be lapping up ice cream, it gives me a warm feeling to note that Wolsley report an order for 20,000 thermal underwear vests and pantaloons. The order comes from Saudi Arabia.

Poghead unvisited

Foreign foods continue to bemuse. Peter Orr was confronted in Calais with a choice of Fish and chips, Egg and chips, or Poghead flapped, but, sadly, did not dare risk the last. Instead, Roger Pierce, at the Ziv Kineret restaurant, Tiberias, could not make out Sheep limping, but thought he knew all too well what Filled bowels meant. At the Serhan restaurant in Bursa, Turkey, G. C. Triger faced Gardner Roasted, Shaving Roasted, or Sam blung Roll Up. The Tsadziki taverns in Crania, Crete, offered Joyce Rackham Octopus frig, Shirims frig and Liverish. And when staff at the Santai Malam, Jakarta, saw Edward Hunter copying down Full Creamed Crap in Scrambled Eggs, they gave him the recipe. It was quite a relief.

Railway cutting

The Poet Laureate's preoccupation with rhythm and steam engines dates back to his prep school days. A schoolmate, the late Labour MP J. P. W. Mallalieu, relates in his autobiography, published this week, how the young Benjamin came to grief while intoning a chant and accompanying himself by pulling on a skylight rope. "They spent about a week in the Sick Room picking bits of glass out of his head," writes Mallalieu dispassionately. "This was a serious matter for the rest of us", he adds, because they were deprived during his absence of the pleasure of playing with Benjamin's "unusually sophisticated stationary steam engine".

BARRY FANTONI



"Next time the Tory right wing will demand the abolition of seat belts"

Car manufacturers are pandering to the aggressive instinct of learner drivers. An outer London driving school is advertising vehicles "with duel control".

QED

A university fellow has sent me the rubric for his son's Oxford and Cambridge Board A-level exam in Latin. It reads, in part: "Answer five questions in all. Answer at least two from Section A and at least one from Section B. Your other two questions may be chosen from any of the three sections. Section A - Answer at least two questions from this Section and not more than four. Choose questions on at least two Topics. Answer at least one odd-numbered question and at least one even-numbered question. Do not answer more than two questions on any Topic. The allocation of marks is shown in brackets." Latin seems simple by comparison.

A group in New York called the Fruitarians has launched a campaign for plants' rights, urging people not to mow their lawns because it hurts the grass. I am worried about the group's name. Reports from Russia claim that the nervous system of an apple is so highly developed that it can produce useful amounts of electricity, and the same has been said here of lemons. I hope these Big Apple fruitarians, who presumably eat fruit rather than vegetables, do not think that fruits have no feelings.

On present form, the next President of the United States will be either Ronald Reagan or Walter Mondale. We have had two and a half years to find out what a Reagan presidency means for the Atlantic alliance, but what would be the implications of a Mondale presidency for Britain and for America's other allies?

I discussed this with Mr Mondale at his Washington home. My overall impression was of a man who attaches great importance to the alliance. It is well informed on the issues confronting its other members, would wish to work closely with them, is sensitive to their anxieties, but would not always be responsive to their needs because of other pressures upon him.

Mr Mondale would come to the presidency with a stronger background in international affairs than any other President since Nixon, whose record in foreign policy has largely been obscured by Watergate. "I have travelled extensively for years in Europe and England", Mr Mondale told me. "I know most of your leaders, both in and out of your government. I know many of your business, banking, financial, labour and religious leaders."

Know them he might, but would he agree with them? He would not share the same ideological assumptions that bring a rapport between President Reagan, Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl. But that would almost certainly matter less than Mr Mondale's flagrant disregard for allied interests in his support for trade protection.

The only time throughout our conversation that he appeared ill at ease was when we dwelt on this subject. That, at least, was some reassurance. If a politician cannot bring himself to do the right thing, it is better that he should be embarrassed at doing the wrong thing. Mr Mondale was at pains to present himself as an international free trader - "what you hear from me is a person who wants more open international trading" - forced by the iniquitous self-interest of others to espouse protectionism as a retaliatory measure. He was "tired of interminable discussions in which we get the shadows and somebody else gets the substance".

He almost implied that as President, he might use his support for domestic contents legislation as a lever with which to secure "a policy of equivalent openness" from other countries. But when it was put to

Mondale: an open approach to Europe

by Geoffrey Smith

him like that, he was not prepared to accept that this was his position.

The conclusion I drew was that he was indeed aware of the substance on this occasion, in the form of the AFL-CIO endorsement for the Democratic nomination. The strong flow of protectionist sentiment in the trade unions makes it advisable for him to follow suit. But his heart is not in it. My guess is that as President, he would do as little as he could to implement protectionist measures, but that he would be so compromised by his previous support that he would find it hard to resist them.

On this topic, my conversations with members of the Administration were far more encouraging. Both they and Mr Mondale favoured, with some justification, against the EEC's agricultural export subsidies. On both sides there was recognition of public pressure in the United States for protectionist legislation. But the present administration remains determined to resist it.

On East-West trade, however, the balance of virtue from a European standpoint is precisely the other way round. What has incensed European opinion is not so much the Reagan Administration's desire to impose more rigorous controls on trade with Eastern Europe, nor even its opposition to the Siberian pipeline, but unilateral action by the United States to enforce its judgment outside its own territory.

Mr Mondale is fully aware of this. "I don't know if these characters", he remarked contemptuously, "have focused on the emotional explosiveness of the reach of extra-territoriality. It is a remedy that ought to be sparingly used, and almost inevitably fails". He went on to explain why. "What if one of these

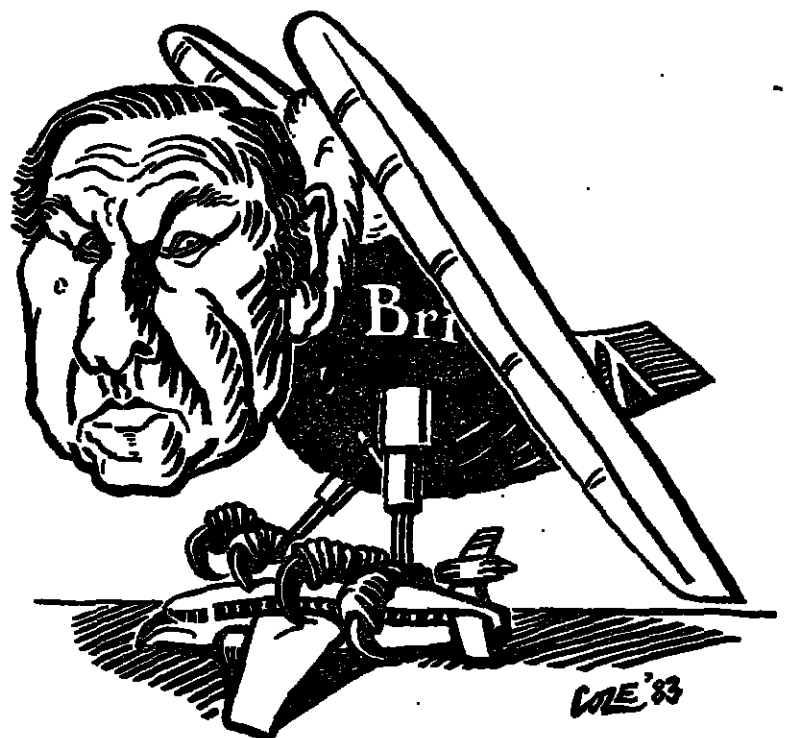
European leaders said: 'Well I'm for the pipeline, but the United States has told me to be against it, therefore I'm against it'. Would they have a chance of being re-elected? Of course not, any more than the other way round. The beginning of a wise President is to start to understand the predicament of your friend, just as you demand that he understands yours."

The obvious sincerity with which those words were spoken was impressive to a British listener. He appreciates how an alliance should work. But he does not want to remove all controls on trade with the East. In non-strategic items the United States, he said, must be prepared to compete openly in trading with Eastern Europe as elsewhere. But he claims that he would be very tough on items of military significance.

But how much softer than President Reagan would he be towards the Soviet Union? He believes that it is a tragedy that for five years there has been no significant discussion between the heads of the two governments. But he would not be so soft as might be supposed from his advocacy of a nuclear freeze. This is another example of his accommodating domestic political pressure: it does not mean that his heart is to be found on Greenham Common.

A nuclear freeze means different things to different people in the United States. What does it mean to Mr Mondale? "Number one, it is not unilateral. We seek to negotiate a freeze on deployment within the context of a mutual, verifiable arrangement; mutual meaning balanced so that each side's security is served, verifiable so that it is enforceable, and violations can be immediately discerned."

The Times Portrait: Sir John King



Whether the management knew or could bring themselves to admit that the airline was on course for disaster is uncertain. But King's inheritance, at a time of world recession, was an overmanned, inefficient organization that had bought far more aircraft than it could afford or use. It was so badly run that new jumbos were leaving for America with dirty cabins for want of sufficient vacuum cleaners at Heathrow.

After turning down the chairmanship of British Steel on a friend's warning that it could ruin a good business career, King seemed to have made a worse mistake. For a time, the airline's management seemed to be keeping their new chairman at arm's length. But they underestimated his feel for business which these close to him say is one of his most striking attributes.

Critics say that simply hacking away at the airline's costs is typical, that he lacks any sense of strategy. His response would be that one of BA's problems has been its preoccupation with strategy at the expense of basic management. Like most

successful businessmen, he never lets any profound theories of management obscure a real sense of priority: it means nothing at the end of the day that BA flies Concorde and has a revenue of more than £2,000m if it cannot make a profit.

King undoubtedly runs British Airways, for all its size, in the same pragmatic way he ran his first small engineering business, Whitehouse Industries, which he started in 1938 at 19. He was born in London of Yorkshire parents and appears to have emerged from school with no qualifications whatever. What he learned about engineering came from experience in a series of workshops.

Despite a sensitivity about this modest start, it appears to have done King no harm. Taking the practical view that ball bearings found their way into a host of products, he began making them after the war and by 1960 the success of Pollard Ball Bearings, which had grown from 90 to 2,000 employees in ten years, had made him a comfortable millionaire.

It is hard to see how this definition would distinguish Mr Mondale's freeze from the balanced disarmament agreement that Mr Reagan and other Western leaders are seeking. Mr Mondale explained the distinction entirely in terms of attitude, not of substance. His idea of a freeze "reflects a growing impatience and anxiety with the current pace of arms control". Or, to put it less generously, he wants to satisfy leftish Democrats by making apparently radical noises on arms control without committing himself to any fundamental change of policy.

While pursuing disarmament records, he would also wish to set new priorities for modernizing Nato forces. "I believe that the McNamara-Bundy and General Rodgers ideas for moving towards precision-guided missiles to try to find a conventional alternative to a nuclear first-strike doctrine is within our reach". So it may be, technologically, but it would require Nato members to spend more on defence.

Mr Mondale countered this objection in two ways. If his policy of "coordinated, prudent economic growth" were pursued, the allies would not find it that hard; and he would be the first President who really took seriously the need for a rationalization of military production within Nato. "We waste so much in Nato in duplicating equipment" that a good deal of money could be saved in this way.

But what guarantee could there be that this would not turn into an extension of the Buy America policy? The answer was quite essential Mondale: "I don't have anything to say on that, except to say that as President I would try harder than I think all previous Presidents, and I would try to strike an agreement with our partners that appealed to the citizens of Europe as fair, and I would try to bring the interests in our country along". Fair, reasonable, but perhaps lacking a little in the ring of resolution.

The principal doubt must be whether he would have the strength to resist the domestic pressures to move away from his constructive purposes. But as I left, I felt that he had justified the claims he made in the first few minutes of our conversation: "I think you would have a President who understood Europe and who understood the importance of having good relations".

Wealth brought with it social acceptance. Outside business, King is very much country gentry with 2,000 acres in Dorsetshire and a lot of horses. He has been master of foxhounds, including the Belvoir, owned a famous showjump, Mr Pollard, and held a National Hunt trainer's permit.

Despite his apparently relaxed approach to life, he is frequently on the phone by 7am, keeps up what amounts to a running commentary from the radio-phone of his Rolls-Royce and knows far more than he ever admits to. He does not suffer fools lightly and his abrasiveness at some of BA's more public press conferences has not shown him to be at his best.

A determination to prune some of the more spendthrift ways of the National Entertainment Board when he was its deputy chairman and his influence in backing Mrs Thatcher's non-nonsense approach to industry helped get him the job at BA. Now he is to receive a peerage.

King clearly admires Mrs Thatcher - the feeling is reciprocated - and took his other main business interest, Babcock International, out of the CBI after Sir Terence Beckett's speech in which he questioned the Government's economic policies. After Beckett then turned to open admiration of the Prime Minister, King remarked that it was a bit like "turning from Brighton rock to Turkish delight in 24 hours."

As at Babcock, King has been successful at BA by picking the right man. He spent several months persuading Colin Marshall, BA's new chief executive, to join the airline. King's achievement, say his admirers within BA, is to have taken a grip on a company that was lost, pointed it in the right direction and then made sure that it had the executives to take it there.

"He has stood British Airways on its head," one insider says. "The management used to say 'these are the routes, these are the aircraft, let's get some passengers.' Now they are saying, 'there are people who want to fly, let's organize the airline to cater for them.'"

King has undoubtedly enjoyed every minute of it.

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Can Labour afford another Foot?

David Watt

Four things are striking about the Labour Party's leadership election.

First it is a credit to the party (and for that matter, British politics) in one important respect - that the contest is between four thoroughly decent politicians. There is not, as or anti-democracy between them. And apart from one or two eyebrow-raising convolutions in Roy Hattersley's earlier career they have all been reasonably consistent and intellectually honest.

Second, what is emphatically not to the credit of the British system is the election into the hands of the unions. Labour's tripartite electoral college has the appearance of democracy and no doubt it is less "elitist" than the old electoral college of MPs; but given that the House of Commons is always likely to bend to the right and constituency parties to the left, it is the complexion of the unions at any given time that will determine the leadership of the party. That means in this case, Neil Kinnock, because the unions are predominantly leftward-leaning at present. But the long-term moral is that the union block vote is an outrageously coarse and corrupt instrument for choosing a potential prime minister.

Third, it is that they are all curiously old-fashioned politicians. Peter Shore affects a Churchillian patriotism and indeed sometimes sounds more like Julian Amery than he does Churchill. Eric Heffer is an old-style working-class operator, a cut-down, left-of-centre version of Ernest Bevin. Mr Hattersley is trying hard not to look like a younger version of Sir Harold Wilson and not being entirely successful. Mr Kinnock consciously models himself on Aneurin Bevan, and his Welsh cadences and cocky charm do indeed raise echoes of the Master. They are all perfectly competent performers on television.

Finally, it is extraordinarily difficult to know what any of them would actually do either in putting the party together again or in eventually governing the country. Perhaps the series of political manifestos that have been appearing in *The Times* will provide some of the answers - although Mr Peter Shore's effort on this page on Tuesday confirms one's expectation that they will be long on analysis and short on prescription.

Mr Shore is a throwback an old-fashioned Fabian interventionist who begins where, say, Douglas Jay left off. Like Mr Jay, he does not like foreigners much and is fanatically anti-Common Market. Mr Hattersley is a pragmatic centrist whose natural form is Croslandite but who is not above tackling on one or two egalitarian incrustations such as the compulsory abolition of the public schools and the House of Lords.

Mr Heffer is a pretty straight Tribune group MP with a strong left-wing tinge. He is what his friends would doubtless call "unsound" on Europe in that he has always hankered after a genuine socialist internationalism that would embrace British membership of a left-wing European Community. He is not entirely "sound" on the subject of Tony Benn either, having been highly critical of him at various times in the past, but his chief claim to left-wing support is that he is sounder on this point than Mr Kinnock.

But what about Mr Kinnock himself, the almost certain winner? We know that he too is a Tribune group egalitarian, though without Mr Heffer's stately working-men's club flavour. He is sharp-witted, eloquent and friendly. He is anti-Militant. He is a personal follower, admirer and even imitator of Michael Foot; and, like Mr Foot, he seems to be a romantic. But beyond that he is largely an unknown quantity in the country or even to the Labour Party.

In search of Mr Kinnock I have been reading the latest extended statement of his position - his John Mackintosh Memorial Lecture in Edinburgh last month. It is 58 densely typed pages long, but it most respects I cannot now claim to know him much better. It is an extraordinary mish-mash in which one's teeth meet upon all sorts of succulent pieces - a morsel of Marx here, a goblet of Gramsci there and quite a lot of titbits of Tawney - but without their having had much effect on the flavour or nutritional quality of the enveloping "goo".

So far as I can detect, the line of argument is as follows:

The Labour Party is in danger of becoming a mere "vanguard" party - all activists and no mass party. It is not enough to have got the party must retain a legitimacy with the voters that it seems to be losing. How is this to be done?

(a) By latching on to classical themes such as Justice and Liberty and showing that all the bread and butter questions such as the future of the Welfare State are subsidiary to them.

(b) By avoiding unconstitutional behaviour (he wants to suppress Militant).

(c) By rejecting the Croslandite (i.e., Hattersleyan) view that the present economic system is capable of overcoming its own contradictions. We must impose maximum and minimum wage levels, adopt a sharply progressive income tax, capital and wealth, greatly increase social security benefits.

(d) By sticking like limpets to the trade unions and the notion of a working class.

This is all very well if you start from a socialist position. But it is all terribly vague and leaves all the important questions unanswered. What on earth are we to make of a paragraph like the following, for instance?

"The Socialism we seek aims to give people the maximum possible freedom to control the conditions under which they live and work. It aims to provide a freedom that people will no longer need fear of 'handouts'. The serious interference and bureaucratic interference. Socialism stands, in short, for the freedom of everyone, in contrast to the Conservative freedom for the lucky few who climb a ladder and then kick it away in order to guarantee the superiority of their liberty."

There may be a new Thatcherite socialism lurking here but it is not spelled out and one suspects that the whole paragraph, like so many others, is pure verbiage. That perhaps is the point. Mr Kinnock is another wordsmith in the image of Tony Benn either, having been highly critical of him at various times in the past, but his chief claim to left-wing support is that he is sounder on this point than Mr Kinnock.

Philip Howard

The Queen's English out of kilter

This is a red-letter day for Scots and scholars: a purple-letter day if there is anybody who falls into both categories. Joke, joke. "They tell me it takes a surgical operation to get a joke into a Scotsman's head, but I don't see how you could get a joke into anyone's head by a surgical operation." Ascribed to an anonymous Scot. It was Sydney Smith who made the original joke about surgical operations.

Today's publication is resumed of *A Dictionary of the Older Scots Tongue*, after a long break and threats of death because of this is not a publication that is going to get on to the best-seller lists - if you are credulous enough to believe in such things - which are combinations of guesswork and old-boy network. But it is a majestic work of scholarship that has been coming out for almost 60 years: William Craigie began editing it in 1925.

DOST, as we call it in the fancy, defines and illustrates every word found in the records of Older Scots (down to 1600), and every Scots meaning of every word for the century following that. It is an indispensable reference book for anybody interested in the history of Scottish language, literature, politics, law, medicine, agriculture, and social organization. Yes, yes; but apart from that, it is a good read. Phil? A barbarian Welsh colleague the other day dismissed Scotland as a small, faraway country, where not many people read *The Times*.

The answers are: (1) The history of any ancient civilization and language is of interest to all intelligent people; and (2) yes, it is the sort of dictionary that can be read for pleasure, full of wit and strange learning. Today Aberdeen University publishes Parts 30 and 31 of the great work (Scottish business calls a Part a Part, and not a fancy fascicle), covering the old Scots language from *Paviloun* to *Pneumatics*.

They take us back to a vanished but still familiar country where a penny was wealth ("of a thousand herrings a penny") and pikery was then, when a picture was an effigy, when Scotland had Lords and Commissioners of Plait to supervise

the explosive matter of ministers and stipends, and when "no woman by suffices to sit in church with plects upon their heads, because it is a cleck to their sleeping". (Let us agree, Mr Compositor, for both our sakes, from now on to translate Old Scots into modern English.)

Consider the fascinating business of *Penny-brydals*, weddings at which each guest contributed a sum of money towards the cost of the booze. I have seen the same prodigal process going on still at wedding receptions in Glasgow and darkest South Ayrshire.

In the dictionary the two opposing sides of the Scottish character, John Knox and Mac Baocuis, rant at each other. Presbytery records rage about the intolerable abominations that fall out of *penny-brydals*. An unfortunate Jock from Kirkcudbright is publicly censured for giving a *penny-brydal* for his daughter-in-law at which were present excommunicated papists. But the most regular and grievous complaint in *DOST* is that *penny-brydals* attract numbers of work-people from their masters' service.

Just like Wembley these days, and no doubt with the same consequences of broken glass and tartan vomit on the pavements. Anybody with any sense knows that the tartan kilts is a modern invention, popularized by Queen Victoria and her descendants, who look ridiculous in it, and who rip the pennies off gullible tourists, particularly Americans. In Princes Street last summer I saw a fat American negress coming out of a kilt-shop covered in Royal Stuart head to foot, now is she the total gues.

DOST gives chapter and verse of how the Highlanders were brown plaided to be concealed among the "hadder". It also indicates that *plaid* is a word of Lowland Scottish, borrowed from there by Gaelic. If they stole the word, they probably stole the kilts as well. *DOST* is going to put fleas up a lot of kilts. As Cleland says in it:

Then up with plaid and scarts her thighs:
These swarms of vermine and sheep kajals
Delights to lodge beneath the plaid.

Zia's power play as the black day flags

Islamabad - A middle-aged man wearing a black armband parked his car the other day in the forecourt of the Shalimar Hotel in Rawalpindi, a few steps from the Pakistani army's GHQ. Outside, platoons of police sat in trucks. Other police walked up and down swinging their *lathis* - long, heavy canes.

A knot of waiting journalists, a magistrate and several plain clothes police in *shalimar* and *kameez* - the baggy trousers and long shirt that have become official national dress in Pakistan - surrounded the man with the armband.

The magistrate addressed him: "I have to tell you", he said in English, "that the meeting you have called has been banned by the Assistant Commissioner. I would be obliged if you now leave this hotel."

No one was much disposed to argue against such a show of force, and the group broke up. Later, at the

Silver Grill restaurant, the man, Chaudhry Arshad, acting president of the Pakistani Democratic Party and local chief of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, held a press conference.

Afterwards he was arrested and taken off to be detained for three months. Three journalists who attended the press conference were also arrested, though they were released a few hours later. So ended the "black day" protest by the MRD, an alliance of most of the parties opposed to the martial law regime of President Zia ul-Haq, called to mark the sixth anniversary of his seizure of power.

In most towns and cities throughout the country the demonstration fizzled in much the same way. A few black flags flew. A few party workers went on the streets and were promptly dispersed by swinging *lathis*. Party leaders were arrested.

But MRD are promising themselves another outing on August 1. This, they say, will be bigger and better than anything that has gone before. It is also Independence Day, and the day on which President Zia has promised to unveil a new Islamic constitution for Pakistan.

What the new constitution will look like no one quite knows. The



Zia; delaying tactic?

President has three committees preparing proposals for him. One from the Majlis-e-Shoora, the nominated Federal Council which passes for a parliament, announced this week that it has completed its work. Its recommendations are that the 1973 constitution should stand, with amendments that would strengthen the role of the President vis-a-vis the Prime Minister. Recommendations are also to be received from the Council of Islamic

ideology and from the cabinet itself. Further suggestions are to come from an eminent scientist retained by the President. The President has promised to sift all these possibly conflicting pieces of advice so that he can deliver his proposals on time.

The cynics believe that in the long-promised elections he will pick out the proposals designed best to ensure his own elevation to as powerful a presidency as he now enjoys. The even more cynical - and they are not scarce - suggest that he may not make proposals at all, but merely announce some delaying tactic, such as a further committee to analyse the conflicting recommendations.

It seems unlikely that there could be much of an outcry even if the extreme cynics are right. The high-profile performance of the anti-corruption this week has made people still more unwilling to go on to the streets to demonstrate on behalf of an opposition that is divided and faction-ridden. Even the left-leaning parties are led by prominent members of the feudal landlord class. And the people's memory of the last elected regime of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto is not one of unaltered pleasure.

Michael Hamlyn

CORRECTION

Eric Heffer's article yesterday should have said "They believe in the convoy theory..." (paragraph 3) and "What we really need is to work towards a Europe that rejects the bureaucratic concepts of the Soviet Union..." (6th paragraph from end).

PHS

سكيا من الامن



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

JUST DESERTS

The Parliamentary spectacle is over, the House of Commons moves on with its mundane agenda, and the issue of capital punishment is locked away not just for the life of this Parliament but for the knowable future. Who can conjure the bloody horror that would make the House think again after so one-sided a debate as Wednesday's, when the eyes so disappointed both in the vigour and the calibre of their contributions?

What will not quietly die are the emotions which gave rise to the debate itself. In the nation there is still an eddy of those feelings stirred during past weeks as - all too rarely - we turned collectively to recall the victims of murder. Parliamentary motions and lobby passages cannot assuage society's conviction that certain homicides are inadequately punished. Mr Edward Heath, as ever on the grand occasion a notable speaker, said it was not for the Commons to decide retribution. Yet the House must channel and filter society's expectation of condign punishment for that class of homicide, thankfully the minor class, including child, terrorist and police murders. Ignore that expectation and a nasty sore grows beneath the social skin, fit to erupt.

Members and ministers must respond to this expectation not as delegates from untutored public opinion, but as free-thinking representatives, with a bounden duty to look to the bonds which hold us together in just society. Mr Hattersley may sneer at "primitive instincts", but among these we must number love, and faith, as well as a pristine sense of justice that extends from the process of

conviction to that of punishment.

The Government cannot let the matter drop; Mr Brittan cannot merely hope an embarrassment will go away. There needs now to be an attempt to round off the debate by action, on two fronts. On one side, we require a set of assurances such as Mr Brittan (in one of his happier moments on Wednesday) began to give. He indicated that murderers of police officers must serve 20 years, as a minimum. He might have added without offending his fellow professionals: whatever personal circumstances might be elevated by lawyers in courtrooms. Such a tariff of compulsory minima might be extended through the category of "capital" homicides. The Home Secretary might provide periodic statements of how many capital "lifers" have been released. The answer should be none, before their dotage. If Mr Brittan and his successors can continuously affirm that no murderer in the capital categories will walk the streets before his advanced old age, then the public's expectation of retributive punishment may be satisfied.

The other side has to do with the penal regime. Let it roundly be said there is no such thing as prisoner's rights - such can safely be left to those ubiquitous prison reformers for whom the victim is mysteriously transmogrified into the very prisoner convicted of murder, robbery or rapine. However, there is such a thing as the state's obligations towards those in its custody. That obligation - minimum, certifiable standards of accommodation and discipline - is patently not met by the present

array of over-crowded jails, Victorian sanitation and arbitrary lock-ups. There is nothing wrong with slopping out or any of the other personal indignities so vividly described by penal reformers - provided these are willed by the state as part of the punishment. What is wrong is that present overcrowding punishes inadvertently, hurting the lesser criminal along with the greater without discrimination. There is a case - now even stronger - for the consistent application of an uncomfortable regime to Category A prisoners: who needs shed a tear at their confinement in solitary for long periods. For a strictly defined class of convict, rehabilitation is now a loose idea of the 1960s; the hour is for retribution.

But such a harsh-sounding policy can only go hand in hand with the general penal reform so desperately needed. Here is Mr Brittan's opportunity. The agenda is not new; it has been set out by his prison service officials and inspectors and by a host of interest groups. It involves dramatic action to reduce the prison population to manageable levels, which means the release, by executive order, of large numbers of non-violent offenders on short sentences approaching the end of their term. It means, over a longer run, a hard fight by the Home Office and other departments for money for non-custodial sentences for those convicted of property and "social" crimes, such as the non-payment of maintenance, vagrancy and drunkenness. Until the prisons are internally re-ordered in this way, they cannot accomplish their task of properly punishing those who have committed the ultimate offence.

TOBORROW AND TOBORROW AND TOBORROW

Brazil must reach an agreement with the International Monetary Fund today if it is to repay a \$400m. bridging loan from the Bank for International Settlements. The agreement is regarded as critical to confidence in the international financial system and has rightly been the focus of attention in recent weeks. But the debt crisis will not go away because a few harassed Brazilian officials sign one piece of paper. The problems and the solutions - both for Brazil and the rest of Latin America - are much more difficult.

The main cause of the debt crisis is a borrowing spree which began in the mid-1970s. Aware that external finance was readily available from foreign banks, Latin American nations ran very large deficits on their government budgets and international payments. The financial imbalances sometimes reached preposterous dimensions. Brazil's public sector deficit was about 17 per cent of gross domestic product last year, a remarkable figure by any standards but particularly so for a country without a sophisticated capital market able to absorb heavy issues of government debt.

In retrospect, it is obvious that the situation was unsustainable. The foreign debts of major Latin American nations were increasing much more quickly than their output, exports or tax revenues. At some point flows of new credit would be cut off and banks would seek a gesture, even if only taken in kind, towards repayment. This moment arrived in the middle of last year, as the severity of Mexico's payments strains became apparent and bankers took flight about their loans to countries in similar circumstances.

The required economic adjustments were traumatic. Countries which had become accustomed to current account deficits equivalent to 5 to 10 per cent of gross domestic product had to take steps to eliminate them within a

one- or two-year period. In every case the implied shift of resources from domestic consumption to improving the external balance was drastic. It necessarily involved large falls in output and living standards. The IMF was called in by country after country to act as the foreign scapegoat for economic turmoil which policymakers knew was of local origin and quite unavoidable.

It should be recognized - and it has not been adequately recognized in much public discussion - that the major Latin American debtor nations have already gone a long way to straightening out their international accounts. Moreover, they have done so by subjecting themselves to deflations of a harshness and rigour almost unimaginable in advanced industrial societies. Argentina is often singled out as a hopeless case, but it is likely to have a trade surplus this year of over \$3,000m., a striking improvement when compared with a deficit in 1980 of \$2,400m. The better payments performance stems mainly from a big drop in imports, made possible by a 30 per cent decline in living standards.

In fact, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Chile and Venezuela all now have significant trade surpluses. They have achieved these surpluses despite depressed prices and weak markets for their major export products. But they still have current account deficits and, as a result, are unable to meet their financial obligations as these fall due. The explanation for the persistence of the current account deficits is that interest payments on outstanding debt exceed the trade surpluses. The Latin American nations' financial behaviour has improved, but the inheritance of past misdeeds burdens them today and will continue to burden them for many years to come.

However, they are not to blame for one important aspect

of the present problem. Interest payments are particularly troublesome because dollar interest rates are very high in real terms. There can be no doubt that the massive US Federal deficit is largely responsible for dollar interest rates being at such levels. The Federal deficit is generating anxiety among potential investors in American government debt because it may eventually have to be financed by printing money. That would cause an acceleration of inflation and effectively debase the debt now being issued. Investors have to be compensated for these risks by a highly positive real interest rate. But this interest rate, plus a further margin to reflect their even greater unreliability, has also to be paid by Latin American governments on their borrowings.

The ultimate solution for the international debt crisis must therefore be a return to fiscal responsibility both in Latin America and in the United States. The 1970s and early 1980s saw an almost universal abandonment of the "old time religion" of sound money and balanced budgets, with financial permissiveness at its most extreme in the New World. The IMF, the BIS and central banks in the major industrial nations have the unenviable task of trying to keep loans flowing to governments which, on the past record, do not deserve them. This task will be easier if political leaders in the offending countries show that they intend to behave with more prudence and restraint in future. In Latin America there are some hopeful signs that a new sense of reality is emerging; in the United States there are distressingly few. As long as Congress and the Administration do nothing to restore budgetary balance, central bankers will continue their travels from one Latin American capital to another trying to patch up agreements about debts which should never have been incurred.

Solicitors' charges

From the President of The Law Society
Sir, As the newly-elected President of The Law Society referred to in Alastair Brett's article, "No longer a law unto themselves", in your July 9 issue, may I respond to the challenge he throws down as to whether The Law Society is to be "little more than the custodian of restrictive legal practices... or the powerhouse of a reforming movement dedicated to streamlining a ponderous legal system already bowed under the increasing burden of legal costs?"

If Mr Brett had read the addresses of both my immediate predecessors to the annual conferences of The Law Society in 1981 and 1982, and as a solicitor he should have, he would not be in any doubt that The Law Society has been pressing for years and will continue to press for reforms in procedure designed to reduce the cost of litigation. But The Law Society is powerless on its own to bring these reforms about. Government action, so far lacking, is essential.

matters, particularly commercial, and he accuses The Law Society of secrecy and hypocrisy in relation to its booklet, *The Expense of Time*, which is a management tool which is to help solicitors to calculate the cost to them of doing their work, taking into account all their office overheads, which have been no less subject to inflation than any other enterprise. It does not deal with the charging rate, as Mr Brett suggests, so that his accusation of hypocrisy is misdirected.

Obviously the ultimate charge to the client must exceed the cost to the solicitor of providing the service, but such is price competition today that any solicitor who sought to make an excessive profit would find his clients had gone elsewhere.

If market forces are allowed to operate freely, then solicitors who do not offer the services their clients require at a price they are prepared to pay will go to the wall. But if Mr Brett wants intervention to force all prices to the levels fixed for criminal legal aid then he risks the disintegration of an independent private profession and the destruction of the broad range of services

for both rich and poor which solicitors at present provide. Is that what the public really wants?

Yours faithfully,
C. R. HEWETSON, President,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.

Hyper-inflation

From Mr J. E. A. Troup
Sir, The Value Added Tax Bill ordered to be printed April 14, 1983, was published by HMSO at £3.15. A consolidation Bill, it lapsed when the election was called.

Fair dealing with ratepayers

From the Leader of Westminster City Council

Sir, Far from berating the Government for undermining the foundations of local democracy by imposing spending limits on local authorities, Margaret Hodge, Chairman of the Association of London Authorities (July 9), should be applauding an action designed to reinforce the first rule of democracy - responsibility and accountability to the electorate.

Any share-out of Government funds is bound to leave some people feeling disgraced, as Margaret Hodge says she does, then the nationally elected Government must be allowed to define the overall pattern of expenditure.

If some local authorities feel their share is wrong, they have perfectly legitimate constitutional ways of pressing their case. But many authorities have deliberately flouted Government guidelines for purely political propaganda motives. The result is financial hardship, not for the politicians who took the "brave" decision to flout the law, but for the ratepayers they are supposed to serve.

I would make a plea for all elected local authority members to forget cheap politics and get back to what local government is really about - giving the best possible service in return for the money the ratepayers can afford to provide.

Yours faithfully,
SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader,
Westminster City Council,
PO Box 240,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1,
July 11.

From Mr J. R. Lovill

Sir, In your round-up (July 7) of the reactions to the Government's announcement on local authority rate targets there was a reference to this association's Conservative majority blocking a Labour call for a strong statement of opposition to the plans to cap rate rises set out in the Queen's Speech.

In fact, the Labour motion, after some amendment was passed, receiving approval from all sections of our association. We have not only reaffirmed our support for the draft European Charter of Local Self-Government but also restated our opposition to legislation from any government, including the present Government's proposals for a general scheme of limitation of rate increases for all authorities, which challenges the autonomy of local government and its freedom for authorities to set their own rate levels.

The basic principles of the Labour motion were therefore retained in the amended motion agreed by the executive council. This association would not wish central government, or indeed anybody else, to be under any false impression about our determination to defend the freedom of local government.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. LOVILL, Chairman,
Executive Council,
Association of County Councils,
Gaston House,
66a Eaton Square, SW1,
July 7.

Justice in Poland

From Mr Andrzej Pietrzak

Sir, On May 13 the Polish authorities took their parody of justice into the realms of farce. Jerzy Geresz, a mathematics professor of peasant farming stock, was helping Poland's farmers set up their own Solidarity. Because of this activity he was interned on December 13, 1981. Since then he has been held in three prisons, including six months in solitary confinement and six months under psychiatric observation in a Lublin mental hospital. He was already suffering from stomach ulcers, but was continually harassed and beaten by guards.

The regional court in Chelm Lubelski finally brought him to court on May 13 of this year. The original charge of throwing a stone at a prison security guard was proved to be unfounded. He was then charged, and found guilty of 1, "destroying" a prison vehicle - his hands touched the seats when he was dragged from it and the damage amounted to the equivalent of £4; 2, slandering Prosecutor Zakrzewski - Jerzy asked him if he was related to the Zakrzewski brothers (notorious murderers). He was sentenced to 18 months prison for these two offences.

By coincidence a petition of some 4,000 signatures, from East Anglia, demanding his release, was taken to the Polish Embassy on the day of his court appearance. It was not accepted so was sent by registered post.

Yours etc,
ANDRZEJ PIETRZAK, Chairman,
Solidarity Norfolk and Suffolk,
The Cottage,
Thorpe Hall,
Mendham,
Harleston,
Norfolk,
July 3.

Credit card hotline

From Mr Ian Pollard

Sir, On July 7 I mislaid my Barclaycard. On three occasions between 11pm and 8am the next day I attempted to make use of Mr Fortescue's (July 12) much-vaunted credit card hotline, available at all times except Christmas Day, without success.

Is July 7 Christmas Day in the Barclaycard calendar?
Yours faithfully,
IAN POLLARD,
17 Woodlands Parkway,
Timperley,
Altrincham,
Cheshire,
July 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Effects of NHS cuts on staff morale

From the Chairman of the Association of Health Service Treasurers

Sir, There is one aspect not covered in your excellent leader (July 9) on the cuts demanded by the Government in NHS spending. This is the effect on the morale and commitment of staff working in the service, particularly top managers.

The NHS has been continually criticised in recent years for being inefficient, despite being able to demonstrate a significant rise in productivity in terms of patients treated and a record of consistently keeping within the cash limits imposed on it which is second to none in the public sector.

Those responsible for top management in the NHS, having just emerged from their second reorganisation of the service in eight years and even now facing a further management inquiry headed by Mr Roy Griffiths, of Sainsbury's, are making determined efforts to be more accountable, to get better value for money and take savings to allow some improvement in services despite declining financial resources for many authorities.

This involves, as your leader suggests, the need to plan ahead, for difficult and sensitive choices are inevitable between new services needed to meet new needs and cherished existing facilities. For well over a year now health authorities have been pressing ministers for some stability to planning in the NHS by giving forward resource assumptions.

The difficulties of doing this in the current economic climate were well appreciated but, to his credit, Mr Fowler did issue forward resource guidelines to health authorities on June 30 of an average of 1/2 per cent a year for the next 10 years in real terms over and above inflation and any savings that can be generated by the service itself. Despite the heavy qualifications that surrounded them, these guidelines were seen as some backing for the Government's assertion of its commitment to the NHS and as a

Runaway spending

From Mr Gordon L.Lee

Sir, Your editorial ("The runaway train", July 12) rightly absolves the Chancellor from blame for the present public spending problems. These, of course, do seem odd, coming so soon after the Tory manifesto's repeated claims that public expenditure was now under "firm control". But it is too facile to blame the problems entirely on last autumn's efforts to avoid under-spending and the remedy certainly does not lie in further across-the-board cuts in the spending departments' programmes.

What seems to have run away at the moment is current spending, Britain's economic and social infrastructure, on which our prosperity and economic recovery depend, has declined because capital investment has been cut. New public construction spending on housing, roads, schools, hospitals and public utilities has almost halved in the past 10 years and even private construction is only at three quarters of the 1973 level. Yet general Government expenditure now accounts for 47 per cent of GDP, compared with 42 per cent in 1973. Thus the disastrous decline in public-sector investment is not due to overall economies in public spending but to a false sense of priorities.

The Chancellor has already admitted that early tax cuts must be ruled out now. It is our industry's case that a gentle recovery programme with an emphasis on greater capital investment in the national infrastructure will result in earlier and greater economic growth without deleterious effects on inflation and borrowing, provided that the temptation is resisted to compensate

Orchid survival

From Mr R.S.R. Fitter

Sir, Mr Butcher (July 9) is under several misapprehensions about the survival of certain rare orchids in the Thames valley and the Chilterns. Botanists who are connected with their protection certainly do not accept that they are doomed. If some of their habitat can be maintained and people can be persuaded not to pick them, trample on them or dig them up (all have happened recently), these orchids can not only survive but increase.

Nobody is suggesting the "segregation of substantial areas of useful land from the influence of farming and other human activities". This is Mr Butcher's own skittle. All the rare orchids in this area (i.e. the ones specially protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act) are already either on small nature reserves owned or managed by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Naturalists' Trust or are on publicly-owned amenity land.

What the trust is seeking to do is to prevent accidental or deliberate vandalism to plants already accorded the highest degree of protection our law allows, on land already set aside for their protection.

Yours etc,
RICHARD FITTER,
Drifts,
Chisnor Hill,
Oxfordshire,
July 10.

All-ability success

From Mr Martin Taylor

Sir, I suppose that in 1973, when my present school was still a 460-place selective boys' school, I might have predicted, like Roger Scruton in his article on "Standards in English schools" (July 5), less good exam results as the price of becoming an all-ability school. However, I would have been wrong. In that year a new mixed unselective school was added

'Financial Times' dispute

From Mr W. T. Booroff

Sir, Disputes in national newspapers are often bedevilled by a lack of understanding, either on the part of the management, or of commentators in other newspapers, as to the real causes which lie at the root of the matter. The dispute at the *Financial Times* is a good example of this sad state of affairs, a prime example of which occurred in the comment in your leader column and the bizarre report on page 2 of the same issue, dated July 14.

The leader comment has a continuing implication that the NGA members concerned are defying the union leadership. This is untrue. The fact is that precisely the opposite position is the case. The NGA members concerned have followed constitutional procedures throughout three years of frustrating negotiations and their patience and restraint is recognized and appreciated at all levels of the NGA. The current position is one in which the members of the NGA leadership are united in their opposition to a management who are responsible for the present state of affairs by their conduct throughout this negotiation.

A detailed account of the position was set out in the General Secretary's letter which appeared in another newspaper recently.

My purpose, however, is not merely to refute the extraordinary inaccuracies that seem to persist in this case, nor even to comment on the provocative contribution from Barry Clemens on page 2. I have also to point to the willful misunderstanding which affects newspaper commentators when talking of disputes in Fleet Street.

Whilst it is true that the contents of national newspapers must appear on the day in question, if they are to have any relevance and that this factor makes for vulnerability, it should be remembered that this position is far from being a unique one and ought not to result in the disputes which erupt from time to time in Fleet Street. Neither those employed, nor their trade unions encourage dispute action, for all recognize that this is contrary to the interests of both the newspaper and those who are employed therein.

The fact is, however, that many managements count on the loyalty of their workforce when trying to impose their wishes and it is a failure on the part of some newspaper managements to recognize the fact that the responsibility for the production of a particular product, in the same fashion as managements elsewhere in industry, that gives rise to dispute situations. When one adds to this the fierce rivalry between national newspapers then the recipe for disputes is complete.

The standard response of Fleet Street commentators, therefore, that the unions or their members are to blame for these disputes does not stand examination and is certainly not the case at the *Financial Times*. The dispute there is one concerning a disagreement between the management and the NGA as to the wages, hours and conditions upon which its members should be employed. A recognition of that factor is the essential first step towards resolving this regrettable dispute.

Yours faithfully,
W. T. BOOROFF,
London Region Secretary,
International Graphical Association (1982),
12-14 Theobalds Road, WC1,
July 14.

New Labour daily

From Mr George Gardiner, MP for Reigate (Conservative)

Sir, Lord McCarthy states in his letter (June 9) that the new daily newspaper proposed for the Labour movement would break even by making "the most effective use of the latest technology."

To avoid the charge of hypocrisy, should not the Labour movement throw its full weight against trade union resistance to modern printing methods throughout Fleet Street?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE GARDINER,
House of Commons,
July 12.

Feeding ourselves

From Mr Peter Clarke

Sir, Mr Hills (July 5) is right. Cultivation of allotments by unemployed people would be beneficial.

In 1938 the Society of Friends (the Quakers) started the "seeds scheme" with just this objective. At its peak 100,000 unemployed were being helped in almost every part of the United Kingdom. The scheme was continued until 1951, though from 1940 aiding a different group of disadvantaged people, when it was taken over by the National Allotments and Gardens Society.

The seeds scheme provided cheap seeds, seed potatoes, tools and fertilisers. Thanks to the Friends' initiative allotment societies were formed, allotments were brought into cultivation and rent reductions or subsidies were achieved to bring them within the means of the unemployed. It was not "charity"; the men paid for their supplies and their rent by weekly instalments.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CLARKE,
264 Alexandra Park Road, N22,
July 7.

Cause and effect?

From Mrs Veronica Metcalfe

Sir, Has your recent correspondence from numerous readers, "On a clear day", instigated our weather?

Yours faithfully,
VERONICA METCALFE,
The Coach House,
West End, Kingham,
Oxfordshire,
July 13.

Matters of conscience

From Lord Campbell of Eskan

Sir, May an old man reflect what encouragement he derives from the fact that when members can vote according to conscience and common sense: when they can listen to the weight of evidence and argument rather than to the party whip, the House of Commons, in a matter of the utmost complexity, reaches a wise, civilised and responsible conclusion. (In other words, I happen to agree with it).

Now how about tackling the economy, unemployment, overseas aid, delinquency...
The man must be mad!
Yours faithfully,
CAMPBELL OF ESKAN,
15 Eaton Square, SW1,
July 14.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE July 14: His Excellency Mr A. W. Symmonds and Mrs Symmonds were received in farewell audience by the Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Barbados in London.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, this afternoon at Buckingham Palace attended a Reception for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

CLARENCE HOUSE July 14: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited Chislehurst Heritage Craft School and was present at a Service to mark the eightieth Anniversary of the founding of Chislehurst Heritage.

KENSINGTON PALACE July 14: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the India Office Library and Records at 197, Blackfriars Road, London, SE1.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC, LONDON The Board of Trinity College of Music, London, announce the following Honorary Awards:

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY The following have been elected Honorary Fellows of the Royal Society of Chemistry: Sir Frederick Daniels, for his contributions to education and to science; the Earl of Halsbury, for his contributions and service to chemistry and for his work in Parliament on behalf of

LATEST WILLS Miss Edith Margaret Player, of Whetton-in-the-Vale, Nottinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,289,173 net.

Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Corps of Transport, this morning received Major General P. H. Benson, Representative Colonel Commandant RCT, and Major General D. H. Braggart on assuming the appointment Director General of Transport and Movements. In the afternoon Her Royal Highness as President, presented awards at the Annual Prize Giving of The Royal Academy of Music, London.

YORK HOUSE July 14: The Duke of Kent was present this evening at a performance of the Royal Tournament at Epsom Court.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE July 14: Prince Alexander, with the Hon Angus Ogilvy, today opened the new Breakwater Pier at Douglas Harbour and the Sully Reservoir, Isle of Man.

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MARRIAGES

Mr N. P. G. Howard and Miss A. E. V. Nimmo The marriage took place yesterday at St Margaret's, Westminster, between the Hon Nicholas Howard, second son of Lord Howard of Henderskelfe, and of the late Lady Cecilia Howard, of Castle Howard, York, and Miss Amanda Nimmo, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Nimmo, of Kensington.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a Victorian-style gown of ivory coloured tulle silk embroidered with mother of pearl sequins, gold beads and crystal flowers. Her tulle veil was held in place by a flower trimmed Juliet cap and she carried a bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley, and orchids. Rupert and Giles Hayward, Benjamin Edwards, Rose Langton and Emma and Alexandra Bernall attended her. Mr Alexander Mathers was best man.

A reception was held at the Hyde Park Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Dr D. P. Dare and Miss J. P. Keane The marriage took place on Wednesday, June 22, in Woking, Dr David Dare and Miss Jean Keane.

Mr W. D. A. Justice and Mrs J. McIndoe The marriage between Mr Bill Justice and Mrs Julia McIndoe took place on Thursday, June 30.

Mr C. K. Allen and Miss L. G. Webb The engagement is announced between Charles John, eldest son of Mr and the late Mrs J. E. L. Craker, of Sudbury, Suffolk, and Patricia Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Barham, of Beyton House, near Bury St Edmunds.

Mr N. J. E. Veritt and Miss S. M. Cowles The engagement is announced between Neil John Veritt, of Wilburton, Cambridgeshire, and Sally Margaret Cowles, of Kingswood, Surrey.

Mr P. Heasman and Miss E. J. Cheeseman The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. E. Heasman, of Sydney, Australia, and Emma, daughter of Dr and Mrs G. W. H. Cheeseman, of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Mr M. J. G. Howlett and Miss G. A. S. M. Edgley The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of the late Mr R. A. Howlett, of Woking, Surrey, and Gillian Alexandra (Been), youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs R. S. Edgley, of Holland Park, London.

Mr E. A. Smith and Miss M. L. Taylor The engagement is announced between Edward, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J. W. Smith, of Nottingham, and Margaret, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A. L. Taylor, of Oxton, Birkenhead.

Mr R. J. Crake and Miss S. C. Robertson The engagement is announced between Jamie, only son of Major J. D. Summers, of Romney, Kent, and the late Mrs E. E. Summers, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. D. Robertson, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

Mr R. Wake and Miss B. J. Crossley The engagement is announced between Roger, of Newton House, Lockmead, Isle of North Uist, and Bellinda Crossley, of Haining Cottage, Windermere, Cumbria.

Mr J. R. Winkler and Miss P. A. Johnston The engagement is announced between John Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs C. N. Winkler, of Boston, Hayes, Kent, and Philippa Ann, elder daughter of Mr W. G. S. Johnston and the late Mrs Joan Johnston, of The Garth, Ballards Lane, Luffield, Surrey.

Mr D. J. A. van der Weide and Miss M. M. T. Telford The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr Ferrit and Lady Penelope van der Weide, of Haversham, Essex, and Merilyn, younger daughter of Mr Nils Telford, of St Sulphur, Switzerland, and Mrs Kathleen Tulloch, of Devandean, Gwent.

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Mr Nicholas Howard, whose father is Lord Howard of Henderskelfe, former chairman of the BBC, and his wife Amanda, daughter of Derek Nimmo, the actor, after their wedding yesterday (Photograph: Brian Harris).

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OBITUARY

MR PHILIP ZEC Fleet Street cartoonist

Philip Zec, the newspaper cartoonist, who has died at the age of 73, earned a significant place in the history of Fleet Street and a footnote in the histories of the Second World War.

Grandson of a Russian rabbi, and son of a tailor who came to London to escape Tsarist oppression, Philip Zec studied art and at 19 had his own commercial and photographic studio.

He later worked for an advertising agency from where a colleague, Basil Nicholson (creator of the Horlicks "night starvation" advertising strip), joined the Daily Mirror as features editor when Guy Bartholomew was beginning to convert it from a genteel servants' hall paper into a rough, radical tabloid.

Nicholson brought in two of his colleagues, William Connor, to write, under the name of Cassandra, what was to become the most famous column of its day, and Philip Zec to draw cartoons. The graphic ideas were Zec's but the captions were often written by Cassandra.

In March, 1942, Zec drew a cartoon showing a torpedoed sailor adrift on a raft in a black, empty sea. Intended as it was, as an illustration of the terrible effect of the U-boats, it carried a caption by Cassandra: "The price of petrol has been increased by one penny. Official." Zec's intention was to bring home to readers that the petrol they were using, sometimes wantonly, cost not only money, but men's lives.

But this was not how the government saw it and Churchill was personally enraged. Bartholomew and the editor were summoned by Herbert Morrison to the Home Office to hear Morrison's comment: "Very artistically drawn. Witty. Goebbels at his best. It is plainly meant to tell seamen not to go to sea to put money in the pockets of the petrol owners."

Zec was survived by his wife, Betty, and his brother, Donald, who enjoyed parallel fame as the Mirror's star writer on films and film actors.

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MR ALAN HOOPER Noted dance teacher

Alan Hooper, Director of the Royal Academy of Dancing, died in California on July 12 following an accident. He was 35. He had flown from London to San Francisco during the day to join a group of teachers from the Academy who are conducting a course at Mills College, Oakland, and fell from the floor-length window of a room in the college.

His sudden death is a bitter blow to his friends and colleagues, not only for his personal qualities but because of the high hopes he had raised during his short time in charge of the Academy.

Born at Teignmouth, Devon, Alan Hooper studied dancing at the Royal Ballet School. While still a student he danced in Bourneville's Napoli divertissement and Ashton's The Two Pigeons, then a year later as Prince in Coppelia and the Bluebird par de deux.

The early ability thus revealed seemed likely to be fulfilled when he joined the Royal Ballet's touring company in 1966, and he soon added other leading parts to his repertoire: the Blue Boy in Les Faintes, and a solo in Kenneth MacMillan's Solitaire.

In 1970, however, his dancing career was cut short by an injury. He took a course at the Royal Academy of Dancing to qualify as a teacher and soon demonstrated even greater gifts in that sphere than he had shown as a dancer.

His first engagement was at the Hammond School in Chester, where he set up the boys' department. When John Field left his post in charge of the Academy to become director of Festival Ballet, he suggested Hooper (already an RAD examiner) to succeed him, initially in 1979 as Artistic Director and, since last year, as Director.

The unprecedentedly youthful appointment proved entirely successful. Hooper, with the enthusiastic support of Dame Margot Fonteyn, the Academy's President, set about reconsidering and where necessary reforming the syllabi. Under his leadership, the Academy, instituted to safeguard the teaching of classical ballet, also turned to preparing a scheme (in association with the Contemporary Dance Trust) for a teaching programme and examinations in contemporary dance, which is expected to be introduced next year.

Besides his indefatigable activity in Britain, Hooper travelled frequently all over the world as part of his personal commitment to raising the standards of teaching.

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When Moss became a

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-637 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 588.2 up 11.2 FT 100 Shares Datastream's estimate was 436.82 up 1.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5295 up 5pts Index 84.7 down 0.2 DM 3.8450 down 0.01

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates Base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10 1/2

TODAY

Interns - Daily Mail and General Trust, Yeoman Investment Trust

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Altriship Industries, Conference Room, Ronaldswood Airport, Isle of Man (noon)

NOTEBOOK

Pretax profits rose by 16 per cent to £122m in the year ending March 31 at Thorn EMI

British rates should not follow US, says CBI chief

Volcker tightens monetary policy and says interest rates could rise

By Bailey Morris, Washington, and Edward Townsend

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, said yesterday that monetary policy had been tightened in recent weeks

Mr Volcker's statement yesterday came in testimony to the Senate banking committee, which is examining his nomination to a second four-year term as Fed chairman.

Because of the concern over the direction of US monetary policy, Mr Jake Garn, the Republican chairman of the committee, took the unusual step of postponing a vote on Mr Volcker's re-nomination until next week.

Then, Mr Volcker will be reporting to Congress on the Fed's goals for the economy and the conduct of monetary policy in the next 12 months.

decided to raise the discount rate on money loaned to banks. Fears of a new rise in the discount rate, which has stood at 8.5 per cent for many months, have prompted a rise in interest rates in recent weeks

City Editor's Comment UK airports on the runway for selloff

It is not surprising that the Government is casting its covetous eye over the British Airports Authority as it studies its privatization options. The authority presented its annual report and accounts yesterday, and it is clear that, unlike its old neighbour British Airways, it is financially healthy enough to take an early path to the private sector.

Mr Norman Payne, the authority's chairman, said yesterday that he has been given a month to six weeks to tell Mr Tom King, the new Transport Secretary, his views about the shape the issue should take.

This year the authority is forecasting an improvement in trading profits from £35m to £37.1m, and its corporate plan (which admittedly hardly carries the authority of Moses' tablets) talks about trading profit of £104.11m by 1987/88.

It is true that a large chunk of the authority's income comes from duty-free sales, and some £15m to £20m of sales would be threatened if moves to eliminate intra-EEC duty free sales succeeded.

Trafalgar threatens to drop P&O bid

Mr Nigel Brookes, who said earlier this week that his Trafalgar House property-trading group would pursue its attempt to take over P&O, said yesterday that he would not go ahead if P&O merged with any part of Town and City Properties.

Big surge in private borrowing

A big jump in bank lending to the private sector was the main factor behind the surge in money growth last month. The Bank of England said yesterday that new bank lending totalled £1,570m in the four weeks to mid-June, the highest level since last October.

Distillers profit rises but outlook is poor

The Distillers Company yesterday unveiled better annual profits than expected, but promptly deflated the stock market's enthusiasm by predicting that this year's profits will be lower, fuelling a 12p fall in its share price to 220p.

Reuters asks auditors for share issue study

Reuters has commissioned its auditors to prepare a special report on the company as part of a study on whether to raise cash for future investment through a share issue, Mr Glen Renfrew, the company's managing director, said yesterday.

Florida adopts unitary tax

Florida has become the twelfth American state to introduce unitary on companies. The move, which coincides with the dispatch of a protest letter from Mr Nigel Lawson, the chancellor, to Washington, is bound to intensify the dispute over this type of taxation.

Sharp rise in share prices

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street stock prices rose sharply yesterday as investors awaited the outcome of testimony from Mr Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman at his Senate confirmation hearing.

Deal with IMF looks closer

Brazil has already removed some big price rises on petrol and wheat last month from the inflation index, prompting a round of strikes in the country where inflation was running at 127 per cent in June.

Brazil accepts more austerity

A further round of austerity measures announced by the Brazilian government has raised hopes that it can reach early agreement with the International Monetary Fund, averting a crisis over the country's \$90bn (\$59bn) debts.

Deal with IMF looks closer

Commercial banks believe Brazil will need \$3bn of fresh funds this year and \$5bn next, once agreement has been reached with the IMF. However, bankers are expecting governments and the IMF to provide some of this.

Imperial up 20pc in first half

Imperial Group, the tobacco and drinks giant, yesterday reported a 20 per cent profit for the six months to last April as part of its fight back to recovery.

Seafirst Corporation

has sold to The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc its interest in Seattle-First National Bank (Switzerland) Zurich which has now been renamed Williams & Glyn's Bank A.G.

Cluff loss

Cluff Oil yesterday reported a pretax loss of £2,000 for 1982 compared with a loss of £522,000 the year before. An increased loss on operations of £2.29m (£1.54m) was offset by higher net profits from sale of investments.

EUROFERRIES CHIEF

Mr Ken Siddle has been appointed chairman of European Ferries after the death of Mr Keith Wickenden last weekend. Mr Siddle will also continue as managing director, a post he has held for 12 years.

ELM EXPANSION

Duton Meditech, a biotechnology company, is the first to try to raise capital direct from the investing public under the Government's new Business Expansion Scheme.

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Industrial notebook

Cars: patriotism is not enough

When it comes to peris - and it often does in a highly taxed society such as this - among the most popular is the company car. Despite attracting the attention of the Inland Revenue, they have continued to proliferate.

With the company-owned car accounting for probably 70 per cent of the new car market, the industry - ever sensitive to the questions and always ready to bash the Japanese in particular - has consistently maintained that it is a segment dominated by domestic producers. British companies prefer to buy British cars, it is said.

The truth, however, is that the import penetration of the company fleet is much higher than the industry, or the Government for that matter, will admit. There are simply not enough British-made cars available.

The latest to fall into the trap of believing that patriotism is the saviour of the motor industry is the British Institute of Management which in its otherwise admirable annual survey of business cars published this week says: "Despite ever increasing foreign competition, British car manufacturers continue to dominate the company car market. This market is vital for the well-being of the British motor industry."

It adds, in parenthesis and somewhat lamely, that "British" refers to BL, Ford, Talbot and Vauxhall "even though some models are assembled elsewhere in Europe".

The institute must realize that this is a gross understatement. Look, for example, at Ford the market leader, and the proportion of its cars that are sold in Britain but made elsewhere. In the first six months of this year, the American company sold 278,962 cars in Britain, of which 78,737 came from West Germany, 30,333 from Belgium and 17,172 from Spain.

These three countries built more than 45 per cent of the Ford cars sold in Britain, while British factories made 145,470 cars for sale domestically, a share of 52 per cent.

It is possible and understandable for a private car buyer to scorn a Ford with an "As-

sembled in West Germany" label in favour of what seems to be an identical, but British-made, model.

A company buyer, wanting 20 or 200 cars and instructed to buy British, is not similarly constrained; one Escort looks like another and who cares as long as the car park is not full of Renaults, Audis, or Toyotas?

Vauxhall, whose Cavalier has taken the market, and the company sector, by storm, is another favourite among the finagling fleet buyers. But the half-year sales figure for British-built Vauxhalls is only 66,324, compared with 33,307 imported from West Germany and 20,593 from Belgium.

Of the 130,652 General Motors cars sold in Britain in the six months, half were imported, including German and Belgian Opels, and it is a fair bet that most joined company fleets.

The total number of imports from Ford and GM European factories in the six months was 264,144, well over half the two companies' total British sales. This compares with a total BL sales figure of 166,705 on the home market which includes the Metro, a non-company car.

The conclusion must be that the "free car" market is dominated by imports, whatever the declared buying policies of the big company purchasers.

American multinationals stress that their plants are in the European Community, a single trading block where there is free passage of goods. The enormous European price differentials for cars undermine that argument and the success of the Belgium factory does little to create or safeguard jobs on Merseyside.

Which brings us back neatly to the Japanese. Nissan should now make up its mind about its proposed car manufacturing plant for Britain, a project which could create 5,000 direct jobs and on which it has dithered for too long.

When the first British-built Datsuns leave the assembly lines it will be interesting to note how many are bought by patriotic British companies to replace German Fords or Belgian Vauxhalls.

Edward Townsend

Trafalgar House still intends to pursue its takeover bid for P&O, despite the Monopolies Commission referral. Wayne Lintott asked Trafalgar's chairman about his present thinking

Why Nigel Brookes stops laughing

Mr Nigel Brookes, the 48-year-old chairman of Trafalgar House, the property-to-ship conglomerate, laughs a lot. He even laughs at the present troubles of his 15-year-old flagship, Cunard's QE2.

Turbine problems - as a troopship she steamed the 13,000 miles to the Falklands at her full 28 knots - have lost Cunard £3.5m in revenue already but the liner will be back in service at the end of the month.

"Whenever anything goes wrong with her, and that is at least once a year, it costs a million minimum. It does not matter what it is. It always costs at least a million."



Brookes: he even laughs at the troubles of the QE2 (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

What took the smile from his face was the prospect of Mr Jeffrey Sterling becoming chairman of P & O and bringing a large chunk of his Town and City property company with him. The scenario was floated in the City last week.

"It is not something we would like to see," Mr Brookes said firmly. "P & O buying Town and City's service division. We would certainly not want it or P & O with it for that matter."

Mr Brookes said that he intends seeking undertakings that P & O does not acquire any Town and City assets. This may be difficult.

The Office of Fair Trading said yesterday that there was no rule to prevent P & O acquiring

Town and City assets or for that matter any other company. "Such an action," an OFT official said, "would be treated as a totally separate proposition to the one currently being studied by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission."

Mr Sterling, chairman of Town and City, was made non-executive deputy-chairman of P & O two weeks ago, and has made clear his availability for the chairmanship, also a non-executive position. The present chairman, Lord Inchcape, and the managing director, Mr Oliver Brooks, were due to retire last month but stayed on

to fight off Mr Brookes £290m takeover bid.

A P & O boardroom reshuffle could take place as early as September and a power play is in progress over the appointments to the executive director positions. It is known that Mr Sterling would like to bring his Town and City management team with him. The present incumbent, Mr Brooks, has his own people in mind to replace him when he steps down to take on a non-executive role.

Mr Sterling, said Mr Brookes, knows nothing about shipping, which is a considerable part of P & O's business.

"If the Town and City scenario is just a financial deal, part of P & O's defensive tactics, then we would obviously try and stop it."

When Mr Brookes met Lord Inchcape and Mr Brooks for 20 minutes last May, to disclose the takeover, the atmosphere was cordial.

"I think," said Mr Brooks, "that if pressed Mr Brooks would feel that Trafalgar is the best bet, subject to terms."

I took Mr Brookes on his word and pressed Mr Brooks for his feelings.

"Absolutely not," responded Mr Brooks. "There is no

rationale to the merger at all. Over a very large area, both businesses are different and the companies are run totally differently."

He was obviously relishing ending his career on the bridge of the P & O ship repelling boarders.

The men agreed that the Monopolies review would take longer than the six months allocated. They agreed nine months or more, which obviously suits P & O but makes it still vulnerable to other predators, should Trafalgar fall.

The charges levelled against Trafalgar during the struggle do not disturb Mr Brookes one iota.

On foreign registration of ships, his answer is that P & O has eight ships registered abroad, Cunard only three. "And under our Bahamian registration it is written into the articles (which he produced) that in an emergency the Government can requisition the ships."

There is absolutely no question that Cunard ships will be available to the Government in an emergency. Cunard employs far more British seamen and on all such chauvinistic fronts Cunard comes out looking far better than P & O."

Mr Brookes feels that, taking a world rather than a purely parochial view, the merger holds significant benefits for the country, particularly in domi-

nating the top and middle ends of the passenger business (The Russians are successfully grabbing the cheaper end).

P & O's order of the Royal Princes - to compete with the QE2 - would also give Trafalgar some very substantial tax benefits at a time when the passenger business is showing a significant upturn.

No coincidence, perhaps, for a man well respected for his acumen. Which led the conversation to his decision not to buy a larger P & O stake in the market than the seven per cent Trafalgar already holds (under P & O's Royal Charter it is exempt from disclosure provisions of 1981 companies act).

"There are many millions of shares held in arbitrage positions, particularly by Americans, if another big game hits town or the delay goes on too long for their comfort and they start to unload, then we may decide to move in at that time," Mr Brookes said, back to laughing again.

In 1963 Mr Brookes, only 28, was a director at Trafalgar when it turned over some £5m a year. By 1968 he was deputy chairman and his own personal wealth was estimated at around £5m.

Now he heads an empire which includes Cunard, Trollope and Colls and a large container operation. All of which turns over more than £1,000m a year.

"The BAA's profit and investment record remains second to none."

The following are extracts from the Chairman, Norman Payne's, introduction to the British Airports Authority Annual Report and Accounts for 1982/83.

Despite the prolonged recession affecting the United Kingdom and world economies, passenger traffic at the BAA's seven airports increased by 1.0 per cent during the fiscal year 1982/83 to 43.4 million.

TRAFFIC

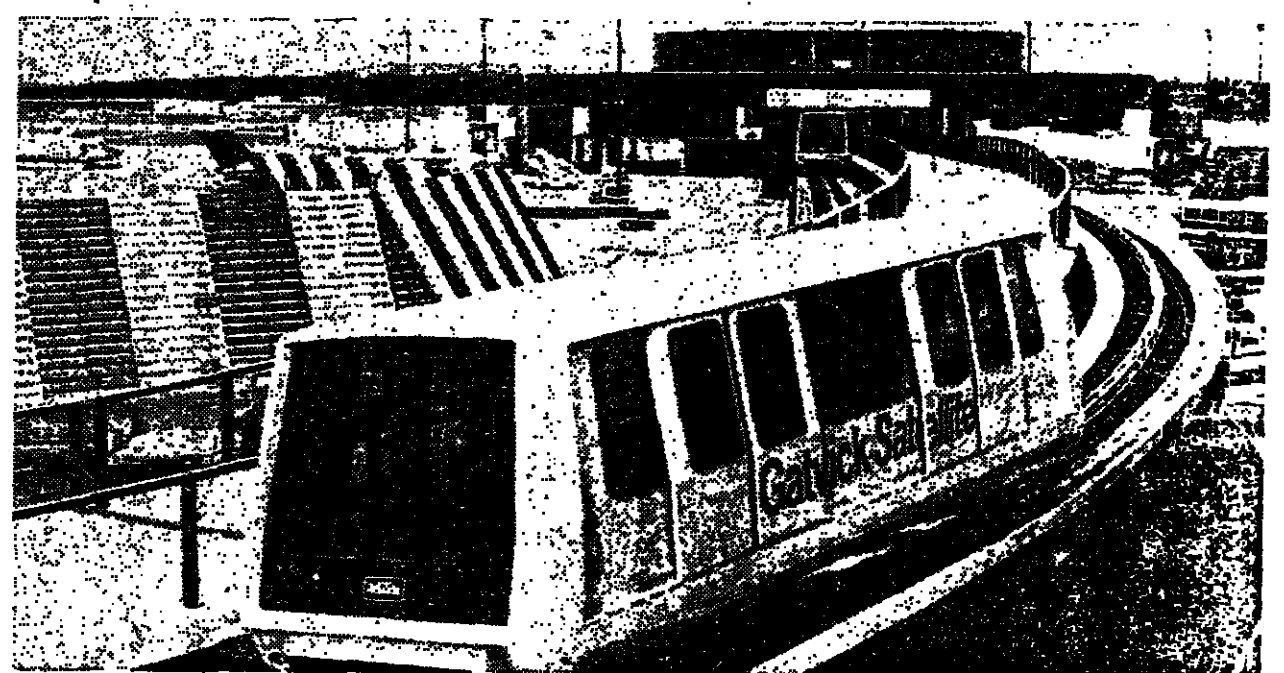
The continued relative strength of the pound during the key early part of the financial year helped the outbound holiday market while exerting a braking effect on inbound tourism. In addition, a slow-down in trade and business activity generally explains much of the contrast between the results of the various airports. Heathrow, for example, again lost ground to Gatwick because of its greater business and foreign tourist components. Scottish Airports showed greater percentage growth than the South East group because of the buoyant domestic sector, partly due to the introduction of a new carrier on the main trunk routes. Continued growth in offshore oil-related traffic at Aberdeen and a rapid rise in charter traffic also contributed significantly to the Scottish result.

A 4.2 per cent increase in air transport movements to 559,000 recovered the traffic lost through air traffic control disputes during the previous year. Cargo tonnage was down again by 3.2 per cent to 599,000 tonnes, although there were signs towards the end of the year that the slide was being arrested.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The three-year period for the achievement of performance targets, agreed with the Government in February 1980, ended in the financial year under review. A 5.0 per cent return on average net assets over the period was below the target by 1.0 per cent. We came close to achieving the productivity target but increases in external costs, beyond the BAA's control, severely affected the cost reduction outcome. Negotiations for new targets are now in hand.

Profit transferred to reserves of £21 million was £1.4 million (6.2 per cent) down on the previous year. The drop in current cost operating profit of £8.3 million reflects the landing fee freeze throughout the year although this was minimised by an increase in commercial income of 12.0 per cent. While our trading profit (of £35.0 million) decreased for only the third time in the Authority's 17 year history, capital investment at £98.3 million - equivalent to more than one third of total income - represents an 81 per cent increase on the 1979/80 position. The



Gatwick's new Superjet is linked to the main terminal building by a Rapid Transit System - the first of its kind in Europe

BAA's profit and investment record remains second to none.

THE AIRPORTS

The Government decision to grant planning permission for the second terminal at Gatwick, together with good progress on the Terminal 4 development at Heathrow, effectively ensures the provision of airport capacity in the South East for the remainder of this decade. The Public Inquiry into the location of additional terminal capacity for the London area in the 1990s is now nearly complete. A decision on this development will be needed in 1984 to ensure that the strong underlying trend of long term growth in air transport demand can be met. The BAA responded to the recommendations of the National Economic Development Office Air Cargo Com-

mittee report - that it should act as the co-ordination body for the development of London as a cargo gateway - by setting up a task force to promote air cargo at its South East airports.

AIRPORT USERS

The development of closer consultation with air transport users of the BAA's airports was consolidated following the amicable settlement of the litigation being pursued by certain airlines at Heathrow. Both sides have now gained a better understanding of each others' position and arrangements as to the future have been made to maintain this through improved consultation.

The work of the Consultative Committees at each of the seven airports plays a vital part in the BAA's contact with those who use our airports, are affected by their operation or who work in them.

CONCLUSION

The slight downturn in the BAA's performance compared with 1981/82 reflects the continued economic recession and the contribution made by the Authority to the air transport industry through the freezing of charges. At the end of the year the first firm signs of growth in traffic were apparent and the Board, management, and staff of the Authority are ready to meet the upturn with improved performance and service to our customers.



UNION DE BANQUES ARABES ET FRANCAISES - U.B.A.F.

US\$65,000,000 Floating Rate Notes 1980-1990

In accordance with the conditions of the Notes notice is hereby given that for the six-month period 12th July, 1983 to 12 January, 1984 (184 days) the Notes will carry an interest rate of 10 1/4% p.a.

Relevant interest payments will be as follows:
Notes of \$1,000 US\$54.94

CREDIT LYONNAIS, Luxembourg
Fiscal Agent

PRIVREDNA BANKA ZAGREB

FLOATING RATE NOTES DUE 1986

In accordance with the conditions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the six-month period June 24th, 1983 to December 28th 1983 (187 days) the Notes will carry an interest rate of 11 1/4% p.a.

Notes of US\$1,000 US\$57.46 per coupon

CREDIT LYONNAIS (London Branch)
Agent Bank

HASLEMERE ESTATES

Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March, 1983

David M. Fickford, FRICS, in his first Statement as Chairman, reports: "I am happy to say that the Company has continued a very encouraging programme of expansion and the developments in hand will put us in a strong position for growth in the future."

Net Rental Revenue up 11.4% to £14.8m.
Pre-tax Profit up 16.6% to £7.1m.
Dividends increased by 14.5%.

4 Carlton Place, London W1Y 5AE

	1982/83 £m	1981/82 £m	% Change
Total Income	283.7	277.5	2.2
Total Expenditure	245.1	237.8	3.1
Current Cost Operating Profit	30.3	38.6	-21.5
Return on Average Net Assets	3.8%	5.6%	-
Capital Expenditure	98.3	83.1	18.3
Foreign Currency Earnings	77.2	75.1	2.8

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Fisons shares soar 40p

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, July 4. Dealings end, July 15. Contango Day, July 18. Settlement Day, July 25.

Fisons, the pharmaceutical agrochemicals group, was the darling of the stock market yesterday as the shares leapt 40p to 680p - nearly 300p above the level at which it launched its £27.7m rights issue this year. The group is now firmly back on the road to recovery after its pretax profits plunged from a record £22m to just over £3m in less than two years.

Mr John Kerridge, chief executive at Fisons, had lunch with broker Quilter Goodison yesterday and appears to have confirmed the firm's expectations. After the sale of its troubled fertilizer division to Norsk Hydro for £50m last year, Fisons has concentrated on producing bigger profits from its pharmaceutical side while extracting a higher capital return from its existing businesses.

The move seems to have worked. The pharmaceutical side is expected to account for 65 per cent of pretax profits this year, estimated by Quilter to reach around £32m. A figure of near £40m is hoped for next year. According to Quilter, there is little downside in the shares and

good growth in profits still to come through. Meanwhile, the group has reduced borrowings from 79 per cent to around 45 per cent of shareholders' funds and still has some of the rights issue cash left to make further acquisitions.

Elsewhere in the equity market, investors were having a change of heart over higher interest rates in the US and in Britain.

Congratulations to Mr Kenneth Fleet, City Editor of the Daily Express and Sunday Express. Fleet Holdings (no relation) will shortly announce his elevation to the board. Yesterday the shares rose 2p to 99p - a whisker from the year's high.

As a result, the FT index had one of its best days in more than three weeks, bouncing 11.3 to close at 688.2. Among the leaders, BICC rose 5p to 228p, BTR 14p to 524p, Eeccham 6p

to 336p, Bowater 6p to 232p, GEC 4p to 212p, Glaxo 20p to 850p, Hawker Siddeley 6p to 308p and Marks & Spencer 6p to 197p. Associated Dairies added 2p to 142p after a lunch in the City, but it appears that nothing new was said.

The Americans were also nibbling at their old favourite ICL up 4p to 524p, after the overnight strength of Wall Street. The American brokers Goldman Sachs say that Wall Street is fully valued, but they urge investors against taking a negative view. A spokesman for Goldman said: "We are unwilling to pay high multiples unless we see high visibility for earnings."

Gifts enjoyed another new lease of life after the exhaustion of the convertible index-linked stock on Tuesday and the Bank of England's introduction of two new taplets totalling £500m.

Rises of more than £1 were reported in longs, while in shorts the gains were limited to between 2p and 2p. On the foreign exchange, the pound closed unchanged at \$1.5290.

Shares in Pilkington Bros were a good market rising 7p to 243p. This week, Mr Anthony Pilkington, chairman, was cautious about current year prospects. But the Society of

Investment Analysts remained bullish with some forecasts pitched as high as £70m for the year against £50m last year. Followers of the tender method of coming to market

Shares of J Sainsbury slipped 2p to 371p, after 375p yesterday as seller of more than 3m shares appeared on the scene. The shares are believed to have been sold at a discount to the market price and are rumoured to have been part of the Sainsbury family holdings.

Merchant banks which have led the recent fashion away from placings to tender offers, are now coming under increasing pressure to lower the striking price. Dealers complain that the striking price of many companies coming to market leaves little after-sales service.

The group offered 2.6 million shares, or a quarter of the issued capital, at a minimum tender price of 32p, valuing the company at £33.6m. But despite being more than five times oversubscribed, the shares failed to improve on the striking price of 368p.

The other newcomer Park Food Group, the Christmas hamper group, put up a better performance, but still closed 3p shy of the striking price of 93p.

The 2.56 million shares offered at a minimum tender price of 85p were three times oversubscribed, valuing the entire company at £10m.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stead, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stead, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

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OFFICE ALTERATIONS? CEILING, BLINDS, EASILY RELOCATABLE PARTITIONS, ACCESS FLOORS, ETC. PHOENIX CEILING & INTERIORS

Table with columns: High, Low, Stead, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for SHIPPING and MINES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stead, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for FINANCIAL TRUSTS and INSURANCE.

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Profits up at Crown House

By Jeremy Warner

Crown House
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £3.83m (£2.56m)
Stated earnings 10.8p (5.1p)
Turnover £184.12m (£148.48m)
Net final dividend 3.5p making 5.75p (5.25p)
Share price 82p up 11p. Yield 8.2%

A big recovery in profits was unveiled yesterday by Crown House, the engineering to Denby tableware group.

Pretax profits in the year ending last March rose by nearly half from £2.56m to £3.83m on sales up a quarter to £184.12m. But they are still well below the £4.55m the group reported for the year to March, 1980.

Improved figures in electrical and mechanical services were offset to some extent by costs incurred in reorganization of production at Denby Tableware which slumped into the red last year.

The company expects further progress in electrical and mechanical services, especially in overseas markets.

Sugar suppliers shun Morocco

By Michael Prest

Morocco has been ostracized by the leading international sugar traders who are refusing supplies to the country while an arbitration award against it is not honoured. But there is no immediate danger of Morocco running out of sugar.

The Moroccan National Office of Tea and Sugar has not paid \$10.6m, plus interest at 18.5 per cent a year, to Philippine Sugar Trading (London), the British office of a Philippines government company.

The Council of the Sugar Association of London, acting as arbitrator, found in April last year that Morocco had refused in April 1981 to take delivery of three cargoes totalling 33,000 tonnes of sugar.

The sugar was part of a 100,000-tonne contract agreed in May 1980. The office argued force majeure, claiming that it had been instructed by the Moroccan Government not to take delivery. The argument was rejected by the arbitrators. Court appeals in both Britain and Morocco also failed.

Sugar trade sources say that the real problem was that by the

delivery date sugar prices had fallen well below those contracted. The first cargo, for example, had been contracted at \$890 a tonne while the market price fell to \$564; prices for other cargoes fell to \$490 from a contracted price of \$810.

Morocco consumes about 670,000 tonnes of sugar a year, of which a bit less than half is imported. Traders in London, Paris and New York have refused to accept new business since it became clear that the arbitration award was not being honoured. Because Morocco buys a long time ahead, some outstanding contracts have still to be delivered. The last such contract was signed in September 1982 for delivery in April 1984.

These shipments could be stretched out and Morocco's own crop is available between April and September. But the traders, who dominate the business, have closed ranks against agreeing to new contracts. At the end of last week there were no offers from anywhere in the world in reply to Moroccan tender for 14,000 tonnes.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● Haslemere record: Haslemere Estates, the London-based property group, reports record profits for the year to March 31. Profit before tax rose from £6.7m to £7.08m - the first time they have passed £7m.

However, profit after tax was down from £5.24m to £4.88m because of heavier taxation. The year 1981-82 was the last year to benefit from Advanced Corporation Tax brought forward from previous years which cut the tax charge for 1981-82 by £1.4m.

Rental revenue expanded from £13.33m to £14.84m. Earnings per share, on a net basis, are down from 18.08p to 16.75p, but on a nil basis are up from 14.48p to 16.75p.

The total net dividend a share is being raised from 8.5p to 7.5p. At the year-end, the net asset value of the company's shares - on a diluted basis - was £5.78, compared with £5.63 a year earlier.

Dance Investment Trust
Year to 31.5.83
Pretax revenue, £539,000 (£556,000)
Stated earnings (on income shared), 4.25p (3.5p)
Net dividend, 4.0p (4.0p)

Munford & White
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profits, £452,000 (£515,000)
Stated earnings, 8.4p (5.5p)
Turnover, £2.11m (£1.44m)
Net dividend, 1.0p as forecast in prospectus

Moorside Trust
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax revenue, £524,000 (£418,000)
Stated earnings, 1.82p (1.31p)
Net interim dividend, 1.0p (1.0p)

Parthen Securities
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £99,000 (£91,000)
Stated earnings, 30.2p (25.2p)
Turnover, £46,000 (£52,000)
Net dividend, 5.0p (nil)

McMullen & Sons
Half-year to 26.3.83
Pretax profit, £1.16m (£1.25m)
Turnover, £9.44m (£8.61m)

Espley-Tyas Property Group
Half-year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £1.3m (£1.2m)
Stated earnings, 30.2p (25.2p)
Turnover, £28.79m (£23.15m)
Net interim dividend, 1.65p (1.5p)

Bromsgrove Casting & Machining
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £140,000 (£172,000)
Turnover, £4.08m (£3.82m)
Net dividend, 2.25p (2.25p)

Greycoat City Offices
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £1.82m (£810,000)
Stated earnings, 5.7p (3.4p)
Net dividend, 1.15p (1.0p)

Voeger
Half-year to 30.4.83
Pretax profit, £752,000 (£898,000)
Stated earnings, 11.5p (10.5p)
Turnover, £14.84m (£15.4m)
Net interim dividend, 2.0p (2.0p)

A-R Television (member of the B.E.T. Group; results incorporate A-R TV's associate, Thames Television)
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £7.68m (£8.04m)
Net dividend, 48.22p (49.59p)

Philip Harris (Holdings)
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £487,000 (£879,000)
Stated earnings, 11.03p (10.35p)
Turnover, £21.26m (£18.52m)
Net dividend, 6.75p (6.5p)

George Dew
Half-year to 1.5.83
Pretax profit, £878,000 (£910,000)
Stated earnings, 5.4p (5.7p)
Turnover, £13.29m (£13.83m)
Net interim dividend, 2.3p (2.3p)

Jones, Stroud (Holdings)
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £2.73m (£2.8m)
Stated earnings, 20.2p (16.05p)
Turnover, £30.56m (£29.27m)
Net dividend, 6.0p (5.2p)

Ladies Pride
Half-year to 31.5.83
Pretax profit, £74,000 (£165,000)
Stated earnings, 0.52p (1.0p)
Turnover, £3.1m (£3.38m)
Net interim dividend, 0.5p (1.4p)

Imperial Group

INTERIM REPORT 1983

When comparing the operational activities of one half year against another, the most meaningful basis is to consider those businesses which formed part of the Group in both periods and to exclude companies which have been sold during or since the earlier period. The details in respect of sales and trading surplus indicate that position. So as to give the total picture, the effect is also shown on the first half of 1982 of the aggregate performance of those companies which were sold during that year, mainly in poultry, eggs and plastics.

On this basis of comparison, Group trading surplus improved by 1.2% over the first half of last year. Borrowings were less as a consequence of the proceeds of the disposals. This factor, together with lower interest rates, resulted in much reduced interest charges.

Group profit before tax, at £79.1 million, and the corresponding earnings per share, were both 20% better than the levels of the first half of last year.

The greater profitability, combined with a higher effective rate of tax, led to the increased tax charge.

The charge for extraordinary items, which was considerably less than in 1982, related mainly to the revised terms of the sale of the Group's poultry and egg operations (details of which were announced last

April), and also included some rationalisation in the Howard Johnson Division.

In the view of the Board, this is a satisfactory outcome overall in a period in which the two major countries in which the Group operates, the U.K. and the U.S.A., were still in difficult economic climates, with selling prices and volumes remaining under pressure.

Given the start made in the first six months and in the absence of abnormal conditions which cannot currently be foreseen, it is now expected that the percentage increase in Group pre-tax profits for the year as a whole will be ahead of inflation. That outcome will be a further step towards the objective of re-positioning the Group on the path of sustained growth which began in the second half of 1981.

The Directors have decided to declare an interim dividend at the same rate as that of last year, namely 2.75p per share. This will absorb £19.9 million (1982 £19.8 million). Warrants will be dated 1st November 1983 and will be posted to those shareholders who are registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 3rd October, 1983.

By order of the Board
Peter M. Davies
Group Secretary

14th July, 1983.

£ million	Group Results (Unaudited)		
	Half-year to 30th April 1983	1982	% Change on 1982
External Sales			
Tobacco	1,203.1	1,232.1	
Brewing and Leisure	419.3	394.9	
Food	301.4	286.2	
Howard Johnson	220.9	177.0	
Other activities	12.0	13.8	
	2,156.7	2,104.0	+2.1%
Disposed businesses			
Intra Group Sales	(30.3)	(26.0)	
	2,126.4	2,437.1	
Trading Surplus			
Tobacco	54.3	46.7	
Brewing and Leisure	28.1	26.5	
Food	10.4	9.9	
Howard Johnson	(0.5)	(0.5)	
Other activities	0.3	0.1	
	92.6	82.7	+12%
Disposed businesses			
	—	5.0	
	92.6	87.7	
Share of Associates' Profits	1.0	(0.7)	
Interest net of Investment Income	(14.5)	(22.6)	
Profit before taxation	79.1	65.8	+20%
Taxation	(23.2)	(15.3)	
Profit after taxation	55.9	50.5	+11%
Minority interests	(0.1)	(0.1)	
Extraordinary items	55.8	50.4	
	(13.8)	(66.6)	
Profit/(Deficit) attributable to Shareholders	42.0	(16.2)	
Earnings per share			
— before taxation	10.9p	9.1p	+20%
— after taxation	7.7p	7.0p	+10%

Notes:

1. Comparative figures have been restated to reflect the following:

- (a) the disposal of businesses in Divisions in 1982;
- (b) the effective tax rate applicable to the whole of 1982.

2. In the first half of 1982 cigarette sales were inflated by heavy trade ordering which was prolonged until the middle of April when the Chancellor's March Budget increases were implemented. Some of these sales would normally have

been made in the second half of the year and it was concluded that a fairer view would be given of the profit pattern over the two halves of 1982 by transferring to the second half-year an amount of £10 million to reflect the effect of this pattern of sales. In 1983 manufacturers did not delay increasing prices following the Chancellor's Budget and consequently trade stocks at 30th April, 1983 were significantly lower than in the previous year. No adjustment to profits is therefore appropriate at this half-year stage.

3. The current cost profit before taxation was £50 million (1982 £36 million) after allowing for a pairing adjustment of £7 million (1982 £10 million).

Imperial Group plc, Imperial House, 1 Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7HB

Boardroom shuffle at STC

Standard Telephones and Cables: Mr John-Cotrell is to be managing director of STC Telecommunications, he relinquishes the post of managing director of STC Communications International, but remains a director and continues on the boards of Standard Telecommunications Laboratories and IAL. STC Telecommunications will be enlarged to include STC's Cable products Division and Defence Systems Division both were previously part of STC Communications International. Mr James Uterson, deputy chairman and managing director of IAL, replaces Mr Cottrell as managing director of STC Communications International. He also

APPOINTMENTS

Woods of Colchester: Mr David Priest is the new managing director.

Warner Home Video, WEA Europe: Mr Byrnes has been promoted to vice president. He is currently managing director of Warner Home Video in the United Kingdom.

Shaw Carpets: Mr Leslie Silver has been appointed a non-executive director.

Premier Consolidated Oilfields: Dr Mauro Beltrandi has been appointed consultant for Italian operations and International Exploration. Dr Beltrandi was previously regional vice president of exploration for Gulf Oil Exploration and Production Company.

Espley-Tyas

Interim Report

Half year to 31st March (unaudited)	1983	1982
	£000	£000
Turnover	28,795	23,159
Profit before taxation	1,300	1,201
Profit before extraordinary items	1,131	720
Net dividend per share	1.65p	1.50p

Salient points from the Statement by Mr. R. A. Shuck, Chairman and Chief Executive

- * Group's performance satisfactory - further progress forecast...
- * Increased interim dividend - up 10%...
- * Howard Tenens acquisition successfully completed - disposals to date £3m...
- * Good progress in property lettings including major pre-let in Brussels to 3M Corporation...
- * Housing division - advance continues...
- * Construction order book at all time high - emphasis remains on design and build projects...
- * US merger achieved - public offering of new shares planned for Autumn '83...

Copies of the Interim Report containing financial reports and Chairman's Statement in full are available from:- J. M. O'Connor, Esq., Espley-Tyas Property Group plc, Elizabeth House, Westbourne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3TR.



Espley-Tyas Property Group plc

Crown House 1983.

Conditions for growth restored

Pre-tax profit up 50%

Illustrated here is a part of the priceless collection of plants in Decimus Burton's elegant Temperate House at Kew Gardens, where Crown House Engineering provided the electrical, heating and air conditioning services necessary to ensure that these plants can continue to thrive in an environment favouring healthy growth - one out of over 1,000 contracts in the U.K. completed during the year to 31st March 1983.

Crown House Engineering provides the full range of engineering services for industrial and commercial developments in the United Kingdom and throughout the free world.

Crown House Engineering is a member of the Crown House group which is comprised principally of two divisions (1) engineering contractors and merchants, and (2) tableware manufacturers and merchants. The group's business is carried on under the following trade names -

Crown House Engineering • Furse • Best and May
Dema Glass • Thomas Webb • Edinburgh Crystal • Denby

These divisions operate in areas of business with growth potential as noted in the Chairman's annual statement:-

"The engineering services and tableware products provided by the group are likely to be the subject of growing demand as the years go by."

For a copy of the Annual Report, write to, or telephone, Norman Vigor at Crown House plc, 2 Lygon Place, London SW1W 0JT. Telephone 01-730 9287, Telex 918602.

1983 and 1982 results compared

Years ending 31st March	1983	1982	Increase
	£ millions		
Turnover	184.1	148.5	24%
Pre-tax profit	3.8	2.5	50%
Net Assets	21.2	19.6	8%
Return on capital employed	18%	13%	38%
Ordinary dividend	5.75p	5.25p	9½%
Earnings per share	10.8p	5.1p	112%



Crown House **ch**
You may not see us, but we're there.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		SUGAR	
Unofficial prices			
Official turnover figures			
Prices in pounds per metric ton			
Silver in ounces per tray ounce			
Bullion (West of Ind. report)			
COPPER HIGH GRADE	114.00-18.00	11.00-11.00	11.00-11.00
Three months	114.00-18.00		
STANDARD CATHODES	107.00-72.00		
Cash	107.00-72.00		
Three months	109.00-72.00		
TIN STANDARD	861.00-11.00		
Cash	861.00-11.00		
Three months	865.00-11.00		
TIN HIGH-GRADE	861.00-11.00		
Cash	861.00-11.00		
Three months	865.00-11.00		
LEAD	261.00-22.00		
Cash	261.00-22.00		
Three months	271.00-22.00		
ZINC	471.00-72.00		
Cash	471.00-72.00		
Three months	486.00-72.00		
SWISS	801.00-22.00		
Cash	801.00-22.00		
Three months	805.00-22.00		
ALUMINIUM	1000.00-2.00		
Cash	1000.00-2.00		
Three months	1000.00-2.00		
RUBBER	317.00-20.00		
Cash	317.00-20.00		
Three months	324.00-20.00		
LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET			
By US \$ per oz.			
Aug	425.00-48.00		
Oct	425.00-48.00		
Dec	425.00-48.00		
Jan	425.00-48.00		
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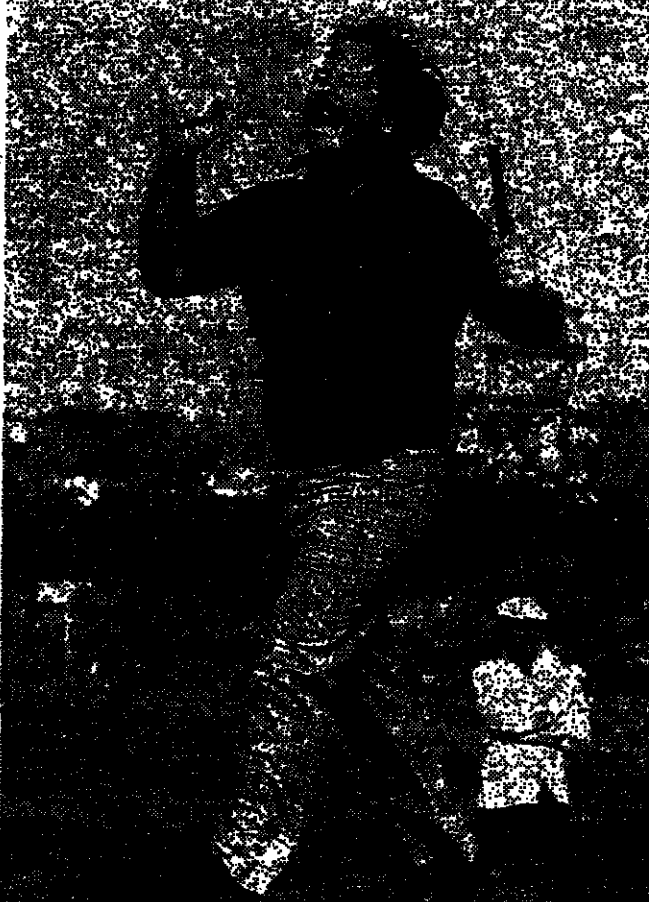
150

The Open: Rogers sets scene for runaway start at Royal Birkdale with an albatross

Stadler dazzles with a 64 as Faldo makes superb recovery

By John Hemmesy, Golf Correspondent

The Open championship got off to a splendid start at Royal Birkdale yesterday, so much so that one wonders where to turn to find the distribution of accolades. Craig Stadler, for his scintillating 64, seven under par, certainly. To Tom Watson, also, as a resolute start in defence of his title. To Billie Jean King, for her stunning albatross at the long event which landed him on the same score, along with Bernhard Langer. To young Philip Parkin, the amateur champion from Wales, for his 9, a stroke even inside his recalcitrant forecast. Laudable as these performances were, particularly that of Stadler, they were surpassed by an astonishing feat of the art of Nick Faldo, who, totally against earlier expectations, also lands on 68. Faldo had made such a depressing start that here were those with little faith in his abilities who were already planning to dig his grave.



Stadler: the Birdie man of Birkdale soars to a new high

one of the basic philosophies of golf, the exercise of patience. As his score shows, he succeeded brilliantly, playing 16 holes in seven under par while the would-be gravediggers slunk away to dispose of their shovels as furiously as they could. Faldo profits from a kindly kick off a bank to eight feet at the 3rd, and atoned for a putting lapse there with one from 25 feet at the 206 yard 4th, falling, in his case, for a three-iron tee shot. He played two superb shots to the 470 yard 8th, with a three-wood and five-iron, and no mistake from five feet. Faldo and Ballesteros got four at the long 13th, Faldo by the regular route of a three-iron to the green, Ballesteros by his route of driving to the green, back to the fairway and a putt from 25 feet after a wedge shot of 100 yards. The last two holes separated the British sheep from the Spanish goat (at least on this occasion), for Faldo finished 3, 3 against the 5, 4 of the cat and the 4, 6 of Ballesteros. Faldo hit the 17th with a three iron and the demanding 18th (473 yards) with his new tee hard by the Hillside boundary with a five iron. Ballesteros was in the dunes again off the tee and needed two wedges and two chips to make the green for a single putt. Stadler went to the turn in 31, three under par, but it was a mere aperitif to the main meal, as he strung together five successive birdies from the 12th. The Open record of 63 seemed to be at his mercy with the vulnerable 17th to come, but he slipped weakly there to take five, and the magic suddenly vanished, took another five, the last after cutting his tee shot into the rough. Langer, one of his playing partners, caught the spectacular mood with four successive birdies from the 12th followed by an eagle at the 17th, which meant that he had stolen six strokes from the card in six successive holes. Three putts on the last, always a sad possibility for the German champion, robbed him of a clear second place in the end. Rogers' albatross was felled by a one-iron from 228 yards out. He was not sure where his ball was "until I saw people fill

out of the stands and knew something had happened." How it contrasted with the previous long hole, the 542 yards 15th, where he had slashed around in the rough and judged himself lucky to have found the ball at all from his wayward second. He took six there. With a four at the 505

yards 13th from a single putt, he thus averaged a birdie for each of the long holes as every professional would expect, if hardy by these unorthodox means.

The Australian Roger Davies, holed in one at the 184 yards 12th hole.

Applause all the way for Palmer

By Peter Ryde

The championship took off in its top gear from the first hole, as Arnold Palmer, suitably flanked by two of the biggest money winners in America this year, Raymond Floyd and Ben Crenshaw, Palmer was applauded all the way by a vast and appreciative audience, even the course was on his side, twice stopping the ball two feet from a bunker at the first so that he could start with a three-iron. His driving gets better as he gets older, his short game is kept sharp by the American seniors circuit that has meant a rebirth for so many top golfers, and he has never had any trouble getting charged up for the big occasion. The eight provided us with vintage Palmer to his waist in the thicket of the tee, a powerful but restrained recovery, and a medium iron to within a yard for his par. He was applauded from every point of the field. There was no mistaking that with Indians while in the valley the cowboys struggled to survive. Anyone who suspects that the Open is becoming every day more of a show should have been there at the eighth watching thousands lap up golf, as they were doing all the round the course. Not all the applause was for Palmer. The public feels warm towards Crenshaw in his recovery from last year's slump and respectful towards Floyd, they want to see both of them there at the finish. They do not want to see either of them there, for they did themselves little damage yesterday, but Crenshaw is still playing yo-yo with their emotions. When his first drive finished just in the rough and he hit it 100 yards, it was the last of a series of mishaps that haunted him at our championship as he worked again. But he got to grips with par at last, and with Floyd scoring impeccable par, things began to look pretty good at the 14th, each having recently scored a birdie. Before they approached the 14th green a watercart on the tinder track held the dust churned up by thousands of feet, wise touch that would not have been necessary 22 years before when Palmer first trod those fairways and before he had done more than any single man to build up the event's popularity.

Watson laughs off rough luck and six

By Lewis Mahr

Tom Watson's six at the fifteenth revealed more about the man than any of the other figures in his 67 years. Any club he had felt at seeing a steward on duty at the point where his second shot, courtesy of a two-iron, landed in the backhorn, soon turned to dismay. "Did you see my ball?" Watson asked, smiling. "No," replied the steward. "I'm a bunker buster - and I can't see that far away." Watson refused to be annoyed, but he did suggest to the R and A that the good man, dubbed more accurately than royal by most Americans, be aided by another a little more eagle-eyed. It was a suggestion given more weight by the number of mistakes which were uncovered as the crowd assisted in the search not only for Watson's ball but also that of Hugh Baiocchi. The South African's ball never did appear, and it seemed disconcerting to see the ball into the statutory five minutes when the correct cry: "Golden Ram!" came up for Watson. The champion knew damage done at the eighth, was repaired with a birdie down the seventeenth, and Watson signed off with a four which could very easily have been a three. He agreed that he had played well and "felt comfortable", Alf Fyles, his trusty caddy, who had been up at 4.30 in his capacity as marker of



Watson: brief dismay

place, then manufactured a glorious shot from the long grass with his nine-iron and soon had all the emotions of the par five hole tucked away in a far from disastrous six. On a day when Mark Limes, the other member of the trio, played both well and badly in constructing a 70, Watson made one other "key mistake". As in 1976, when he opened with a seven, the one-iron he hit from the first tee caught the left hand bunker. This time, however, he holed from 20 feet across the green to secure a par. Another 20 feet past it to ground at the second for Watson's first birdie and he climbed to the top of the leader board when he holed from eight feet for a three at the third. Three under par leaving the green of the short twelfth, "one of my favourite par three in all the world", Watson produced a drive at the thirteenth which was upped out at 320 yards. He followed it with a six-iron to 100 feet and only just failed to clinch an eagle. The damage done at the eighth was repaired with a birdie down the seventeenth, and Watson signed off with a four which could very easily have been a three. He agreed that he had played well and "felt comfortable", Alf Fyles, his trusty caddy, who had been up at 4.30 in his capacity as marker of

Table with 5 columns: Hole, Yds, Par, Hole, Yds, Par. Shows scores for various holes and a total score of 3,330 for 34 holes, with a 3,638 for 37 holes.

First round scores at Royal Birkdale

Table of first round scores at Royal Birkdale. Lists names of players and their scores, such as Stadler (64), Watson (67), Faldo (68), etc.

Although Severiano Ballesteros had achieved nothing of note before being placed in the 1976 Open the Open programme on the year contained a full page picture of him. This was not a case of prescience on the part of the publishers; it had originally been intended to show a picture of Salvador Balbuena, an outstanding golfer of that time in Spain who died a few years later. At the last moment it was detected that the picture was not of Balbuena but of a younger called Ballesteros; it was too late to change

Tee-off times

- 8.20 am Chien Soon Lu (Taiwan, P. R. China) (US). 8.45 A. Jackson, M. Sutton (Sp), L. Trevino (US). 9.05 B. Langer (WG), P. Way, C. Stadler (US). 9.25 D. Smyth, B. Campbell (US), T. Nakamura (Jap), S. Lytle (US). 9.45 F. Zoeller (US), S. Clegg, G. Norman (Aust). 10.10 G. Payer (SA), L. Woodman, L. Wood (US). 10.40 J. Nicholas (US), K. Brown, N. Price (Zimb). 11.00 B. Gallacher, B. Shearer (Aust), T. Watkinson (WG). 11.10 pm G. Brand Jr, B. Rogers (US), D. Graham (AUS). 1.30 T. Watson (US), M. James, H. Baiocchi (SA). 8.25 D. Smyth, B. Campbell (US), T. Nakamura (Jap), S. Lytle (US). 8.45 F. Zoeller (US), S. Clegg, G. Norman (Aust). 10.10 G. Payer (SA), L. Woodman, L. Wood (US). 10.40 J. Nicholas (US), K. Brown, N. Price (Zimb).

RACING

Injured Newnes misses out on Candy's big-race hopes

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Henry Candy will have to find a replacement jockey to ride his good filly Time Charter in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot in eight days time. At Salisbury yesterday Candy announced that Billy Newnes, his stable jockey, had fractured his left shoulder earlier in the day when the horse that he was riding at exercise broke a blood vessel and collapsed and died. Newnes was rushed to hospital in the night where he was expected to be comfortable as could be expected yesterday evening. Candy would not name the horse involved as he had been unable to contact his owner and, understandably, he wanted him to hear it first and rather than read it in the newspapers. Philip Waldron, the only other owner to have ridden Time Charter, is also hours of combat for the time being recovering from the injuries he has sustained in that pile-up at Windsor last month. Candy was not particularly perturbed as he has seen someone else in riding Time Charter in the big Ascot race. "She's a very uncomplicated and does not make much riding", was his laconic comment before the injury. "I'm sure she'll be back in the ring and worse for her unfortunate race in the Eclipse Stakes which, for a variety of reasons, is probably best avoided. Candy will deputize for Newnes in the Curragh tomorrow on Shore line in the Irish Oaks. A great many of the filies which were missing Terry Wood's early morning programme recently turned

Sea Pigeon enjoys the old routine

By Michael Seely

Sea Pigeon, the most versatile horse since Brown Jack, is enjoying the heatwave at Graham Lockyer's Maitland Stables. However, reports that the dual champion filly is about to be launched on a new career at the age of 13, are premature. "I've only had her for about a week", Lockyer said yesterday. He gallops this morning, backing and equalising, and delighted to be back with other horses. There is no question of him racing at present. But if he gets above himself, we might see him have a go in a small conditions race. He certainly wouldn't be asked to carry top weight in a handicap. Sea Pigeon was retired on the eve of his attempt to win his third Clonmel Handicap in 1982 for trainer, Peter Easterby. He won 16 flat races and 21 over hurdles, and collected more than £275,000 in prize money for Pat Muldoon.

Thirst

Draw advantage: High numbers best

- 2.45 KEITH STONE STAKES (2-y-o selling; £1,420; 7) (7 runners) 1. 40 ACIDUS (N Chatterlain 8-11) 2. 10 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 3. 12 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 4. 14 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 5. 20 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 6. 22 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 7. 24 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 8. 26 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 9. 28 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 10. 30 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 11. 32 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 12. 34 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 13. 36 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 14. 38 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 15. 40 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 16. 42 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 17. 44 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 18. 46 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 19. 48 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 20. 50 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 21. 52 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 22. 54 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 23. 56 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 24. 58 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 25. 60 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 26. 62 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 27. 64 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 28. 66 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 29. 68 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 30. 70 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 31. 72 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 32. 74 040 GET WALK (S 8-11) 33. 76 040 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